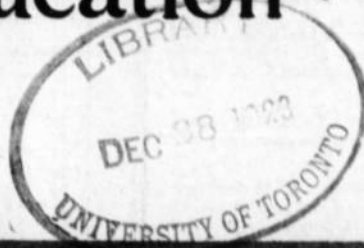


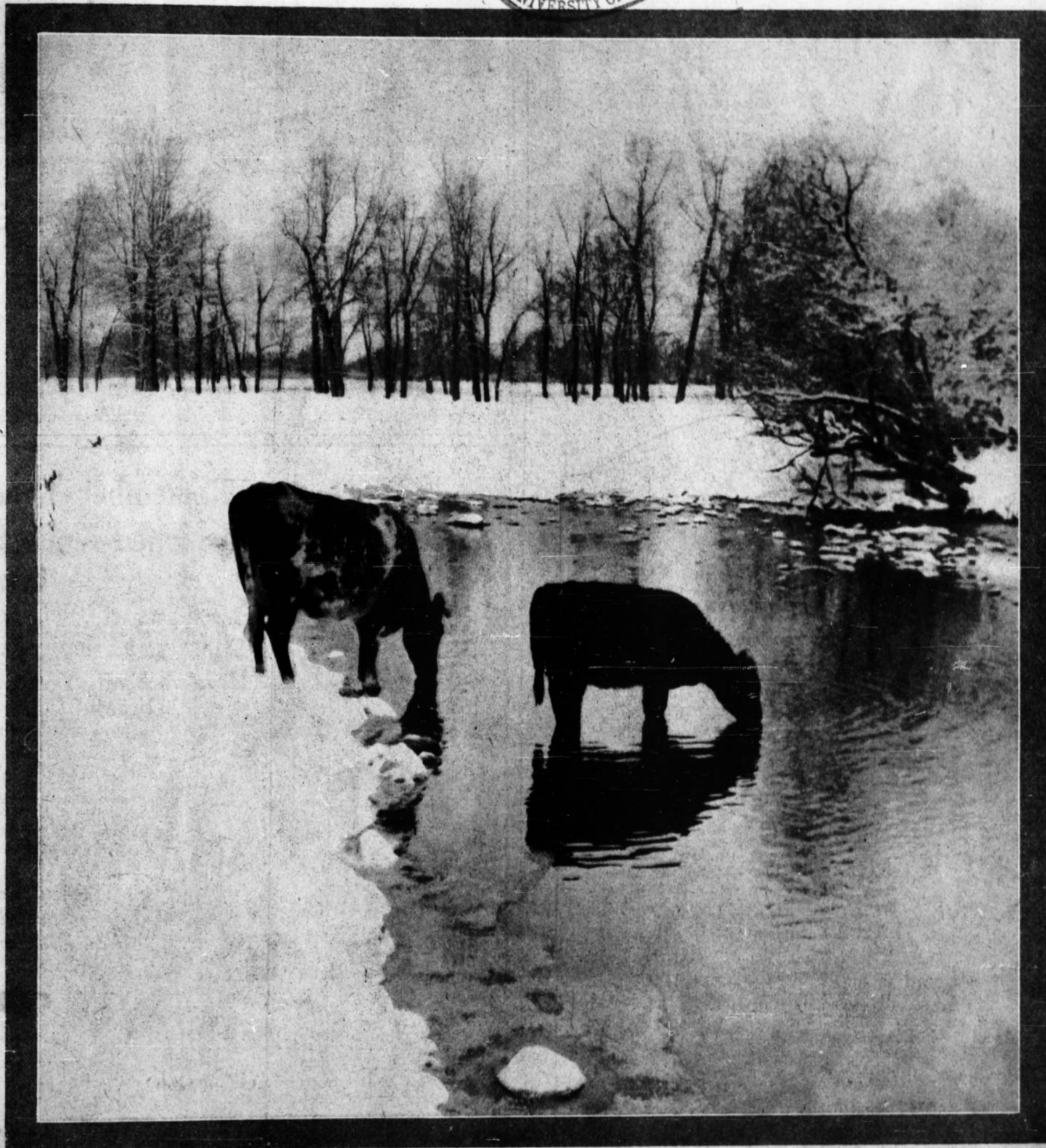
THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

Organization · Education · Co-operation

Winnipeg, Man.



December 19, 1923



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WINNIPEG, MAN.**



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THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

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A Weekly Journal for Progressive Farmers

The Guide is absolutely owned and controlled by the organized farmers—entirely independent, and not one dollar of political, capitalistic or special interest money is invested in it.

GEORGE F. CHIPMAN
Editor and Manager

Authorized by the Postmaster-General, Ottawa, Canada, for transmission as second-class mail matter. Published weekly at 290 Vaughan Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

VOL. XVI.

December 19, 1923

No. 51



Employed as the official organ of the United Farmers of Manitoba, the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association and the United Farmers of Alberta.

J. T. HULL
Associate Editor

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The British Labor Party

In Thirty Years Parliamentary Strength of Labor in Britain has Risen from One to 185, the Vote from 712 to 4,350,000, and the Party has become the Official Opposition—By J. T. Hull

THE most momentous feature of British politics is the phenomenal rise of the Labor party. Thirty years ago an Independent Labor candidate was described as a "freak" candidature, and his election created no concern in the ranks of the old parties. In the election just concluded the Labor party secured a representation of 185 in the House of Commons, and polled 4,350,000 votes.

The desire for working class representation in the British House of Commons began as far back as 1867, when the franchise was extended to include a large number of the working class. Working men candidates stood for election, but in every case they were associated with the Liberal party. In 1874, two coal miners were elected, and a stone-mason was added in 1880. In 1885, the party had grown to 11, and in 1892 to 14. There was, however, no Labor party in existence; Labor representation in the British house was included in the Liberal strength. In 1887, the Fabian Society began the movement for the formation of a Labor party. In 1888, J. Keir Hardie stood as an Independent Labor candidate in the constituency of Mid-Lanark, Scotland, and polled 712 out of a total of about 8,000 votes. In 1892, again standing as an Independent Labor candidate, he was elected for West Ham, and the memory of his appearance in the House of Commons, wearing a two-peaked cap has not yet died out. In 1893, the Independent Labor party was formally organized, and in the general election of 1895, it ran 28 candidates. Not one was successful and Hardie lost his seat in West Ham. The enrolled membership of the Independent Labor Party at that time was 6,000, and in the election the party polled a total of 44,320 votes.

In 1896 the proposal for a straight Labor party was made to the Trades Union Congress, and it was carried by 546,000 to 434,000 card votes, the minority vote showing how strong was the objection to mixing politics with trade unionism. The result was the formation of the Labor Representation Committee with J. Ramsay MacDonald, as secretary. It should be noted that the party was not restricted in membership to manual workers and never has been so restricted. In the election of 1900, the Labor Representation Committee ran 15 candidates but only two were elected, the total Labor vote being 62,700. During the next three years six by-elections were contested, three of them successfully. In the general election of 1906, 50 candidates of the Labor party were in the field against all other parties, it having been decided at a conference in 1903, that the party was to be strictly independent, to have its own Labor policies and its own whip in parliament. Of the 50 candidates, 29 were elected, the party as a whole polling 323,200 votes. The success of the party created something approaching consternation in the ranks of the old parties, and the apprehension was increased when the Labor members who had previously been identified with the Liberal party, and who it must be said had done their best to keep Labor

and Liberal together, went over to the new party, which henceforth became known as the Labor party. Between 1906 and 1910, the party was very aggressive in parliament, and in the first election of 1910 the parliamentary representation was increased to 41, a gain of one seat being registered in the second election of 1910. Considerable efforts were made during this period to keep Labor within the Liberal fold, and, not the least important of these efforts was Mr. Lloyd George's famous budget of 1909. In the main Labor and Liberal worked fairly well together, but the idea was steadily growing that Liberalism was a flagging force, and that Labor was taking its place as a dynamic progressive force.

When the war broke out the Labor party was not quite certain of its ground as a whole, but as the conflict proceeded it put itself almost solidly behind the government, and members of the party were taken into the cabinet. In 1917, the party published its war aims which proved to be a remarkable anticipation of the celebrated 14 points of President Wilson, and the memorandum was agreed to by Labor in France, Belgium and Italy, and, professedly at least, by Mr. Lloyd George, who was then premier. After the signing of the armistice Labor withdrew from the coalition, and in the general election in December, 1918, the party's representation was increased from 40 to 60 members. This result may be traced to the publication of the party's memorandum, entitled, Labor and the New Social Order, which was published

in full in The Guide of March 13, 1918. As a statement of the social, economic and political ideals of the party, it had a profound influence on public opinion, an influence that was further revealed in the general election of 1922. In that election the Labor party had candidates in 400 seats, and of these candidates 138 were elected, together with four representing the co-operative party which endorses the Labor platform, giving the Labor party 142 members in the House of Commons. The total vote polled by the party was over 4,250,000. In the election just concluded the Labor party had 434 candidates. It increased its popular vote by about 100,000, and secured 185 seats, 65 of these being won in three-cornered contests, Liberals and Labor coming to an agreement in only two constituencies. As the Liberals elected only 155 candidates the Labor party retains the position of His Majesty's Opposition, which it won in 1922.

Up to 1918 the party was exclusively a federation of trade unions and socialist organizations, each organization becoming affiliated by a majority vote of its members. In that year individual membership was instituted and special facilities were afforded women electors to join the party. Individual membership brought in the "intellectuals" of the Labor movement, thus giving immense strength to the party in the House of Commons. Because of its structure, however, the party includes all shades of opinion from the moderate old-fashioned trade unionist to the extreme of communism, the binding element being concentration upon immediate aims, as set forth in the platform of the party.

The plank of main interest in the Labor party's platform in the election just concluded was the capital levy—or as it is termed, the war debt redemption levy. The method of the levy which is set forth as the immediate

policy of the Labor party, would be to "impose a non-recurring, graduated war-debt redemption levy on all individual fortunes in excess of \$5,000 (say \$24,000), to be devoted solely to the reduction of the debt."

It is claimed that the saving thus effected, with the reduction of expenditure on armaments, "other sane economies," and the increased revenue derived from taxation of land values, would make it possible to reduce the burden of income tax, abolish food duties, entertainments tax, and corporation profits tax, and to provide money for necessary social services.

In regard to agriculture and land, Labor's policy is to develop agriculture and raise the standard of rural life by establishing machinery for regulating wages with an assured minimum. Credit and state insurance facilities for farmers and small-holders will be provided for and co-operative methods of production and distribution assisted.

It is proposed, further, to "restore to the people their lost rights in the land, including minerals," and to that end the Land Valuation Department would be re-equipped.

Unemployment, the manifesto continues, is a "recurrent feature" of the existing economic system, common to every industrialized country, "irrespective of whether it has protection or free trade." The government's winter work program is denounced, and among the national schemes proposed by Labor are: a national system of electrical power supply, the development of transport by road, rail and canal, and the improvement of national resources by land drainage, reclamation, afforestation, town-planning, and housing schemes.

The state-ownership of mines, railways, and electrical power stations is advocated, and popular control of the drink traffic.

In foreign policy the party stands for international co-operation "through a strengthened and enlarged League of Nations," and calls for an immediate international conference (to include Germany on terms of equality) to deal with treaty revision, especially reparations and debts.

Grain Enquiry Commission

On behalf of the directorate of the United Farmers of Manitoba, D. G. Mackenzie, secretary of the U.F.M., submitted a memorandum containing ten suggestions for the better handling of grain to the Royal Grain Enquiry Commission at its sitting at Brandon, on December 2. In presenting the memorandum, Mr. Mackenzie stated that the directors of the U.F.M. fully recognized the complicated nature of the problems involved, and that the efficiency of the present machine should not be impaired, but the system improved by constructive reforms. What the directors submitted, he said, should not be taken as final but rather as suggestions tending toward an improvement which would remove causes of complaint and dissatisfaction. The memorandum suggested:

1. The institution of a duplicating sampling system, which would ensure a check on the samples drawn for inspection.

2. That a careful investigation should be made into the question of moisture content of grain in order that the con-

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The Lovely Gladiolus

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The Guide has purchased a quantity of choice Gladioli bulbs, and while they last will supply them to subscribers at a very low price. One dozen Gladioli bulbs will be mailed to any subscriber for 35 cents, postpaid, provided your order is accompanied by your renewal subscription for The Guide at \$1.00 per year, or \$2.00 for three years, or \$3.00 for five years. The bulbs will be mailed out early in May, as soon as danger of frost is past and in safe time for planting, but orders must be received early to ensure being filled. Full instructions for planting and care of Gladioli will be mailed with each package.

THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE, WINNIPEG, MAN.

tent allowed should be as high as consistent with scientific procedure.

3. That in the case of grades rejected for foreign material, the practice of settling with the farmer on the basis of the cleaned grain after he has been charged for the cleaning should be prohibited, as contrary to the Canada Grain Act.

4. That the government each year should make a careful analysis of samples of wheat drawn from various districts to determine the milling and baking qualities of each grade, the results of such test to be used, as far as possible, in determining spreads in prices between grades.

5. That the present system of government retention of overages in the terminal elevators in excess of one quarter of one per cent. continue, and that the proceeds of the sale of the overages be applied in the reduction of the cost of handling grain through the terminal elevators.

6. That all revenue secured through the sale of accumulated samples in the inspection department should be directly applied to reducing the cost of weighing and inspection.

7. The cost of bulkheading should be reduced to the minimum. The commission is invited to consider the fact that with the increasing capacity of cars, and the tendency towards mixed farming leading to a decrease in the individual production of grain, the number of farmers having car loads to ship is becoming less, making it probable that what was at one time a car load lot will have to be sold at street prices, unless the cost of bulkheading, which the railways are discouraging, be decreased.

8. That some means should be discovered for the protection of the small producer against the disproportionate spread in track and street prices. The commission is invited to consider the causes of this spread.

9. That the law with regard to special binned wheat be strictly enforced and all country elevators be compelled to supply the sample boxes in accordance with the Canada Grain Act.

10. That in determining the weight per bushel of any sample of grain under process of inspection the dockage should

be removed before the grain is weighed. This to apply in country elevators as well as in the government inspection department.

Grain Growing Unprofitable

J. D. McGregor expressed the opinion that the time had come when the farmer must go into livestock, as grain farming was not what it used to be, and W. C. McKillican, superintendent of the Brandon Experimental Farm, stated that the records showed that even with good crops grain growing could not now be conducted at a profit. H. W. Harvey, of Rapid City, drew attention to the price of wheat and the price of flour, and contended that the farmer was either getting too little for his wheat or paying too much for his flour.

The commission sat in Winnipeg on December 11-12. On the first day, Professor Buller, of the Manitoba Agricultural College, testified out of knowledge secured at first hand that the sampling as done in the Winnipeg yards was done carefully, and equal care was observed in the grading, but he thought the taking of two samples by different sampling gangs would provide a useful check.

A number of farmers appeared before the commission on both days, some with general complaints against the system, others with grievances against particular elevator companies. Officials of the particular companies appeared in reply to the latter complaints, the former were practically covered in the memorandum presented to the commission by the secretary of the U.F.M. Mr. McKenzie supported the memorandum in detail at the second day's meeting, and he further suggested that it would be a considerable benefit to the farmer if a plan could be devised whereby he would have to meet his financial obligations in the spring instead of November 1, as at present.

In the course of the examination of Mr. McKenzie, and in connection with the cost of administering the Canada Grain Act, S. B. Woods, K.C., chief counsel for the commission, stated that the government made a profit of approximately \$325,000 a year from the administration of the act, exclusive of the value of its share of overages.

The commission adjourned on December 12, for the Christmas holidays. It will meet again in Winnipeg in January, when the grain trade will be heard.

show why there should not be a decrease in rates instead of an increase, and if no relief was given in the matter of rates the consequence might be serious even for the Board of Railway Commissioners.

Protests were also lodged by the Retail Merchants Association, the Winnipeg Board of Trade and a number of prominent business men, all stressing the same argument that business could not at this time stand an increase of rates.

Paper Losses

On the second day Isaac Pitblado, K.C., representing the Manitoba government, maintained that the figures submitted by the express companies were merely bookkeeping figures. The losses of the companies did not exist except as a matter of departmental bookkeeping. The companies were departments of the railways not separate, distinct and independent corporations and the losses shown by the Dominion Express were simply the result of paying large sums to the parent organization, the C.P.R. He went into the figures in detail and maintained that the figures showed that the company had losses only in the proportion in which they divided up with the railway. The railways, he stated, were trying to do what no business man would try to do. They were trying to show profits in a department which is only a by-product. The railways should show that they need an increased general revenue rather than an increased revenue for a particular department and this they had not attempted before the commission.

Mr. Pitblado contended that the expenses of the companies had gone down, not up, that they were getting more business, that much of their costs was due to the competition for business between the railways, that they had made no effort to adjust their business to the prevailing conditions, and that by increasing rates they would reduce their business and would be applying for another increase in rates next year. Finally he filed on behalf of the province of Manitoba, a petition for a decrease of rates, particularly on articles of food.

The fruit jobbers filed a memorandum against increasing express rates and claimed that an increase would hurt both the producers of fruit and the consumers. Dried fruits, they stated, in their memorandum, are coming more and more upon the market, and fresh fruit was much to be preferred to dried fruit. It was necessary to get fresh fruit to the population on the prairies as cheaply as possible, and they asked for decreased rates on fruit.

The commission adjourned to meet at Ottawa sometime in January.

Protests Against Express Rates

FARMERS, business men and the Manitoba government united in protest against the application of the express companies for an increase in rates at the sitting of the Board of Railway Commissioners in Winnipeg, December 10-11. The case for the farm home was put forward by Mrs. J. Elliott, president of the United Farm Women of Manitoba.

Mrs. Elliott told the commission that express rates ran away with profits on farm produce and supplies that rightly belongs to the farm family. She told of marketing two crates of fowl worth \$12.30, and the express charges on the shipment to Winnipeg being \$4.50, just about a third of the value of the fowl. Repairs for machinery sent C.O.D., weighing half a pound, and valued at 90 cents, from Brandon to Oak River, cost 40 cents express. A parcel weighing a pound, sent the same distance cost 45 cents express.

Mrs. Elliott pointed out that the U.F.M. and the U.F.W.M. were continually trying to better marketing conditions for farm people, but everywhere they found themselves up against increased costs of transportation. When asked by the chairman what would be the effect, in her opinion of a raise in express rates, she replied that it would almost annihilate shipments by express. "High express rates" she said, discriminate against mixed farming and tend to make it a failure. Express cars now run over our line of railway almost empty where formerly they carried large shipments. The cost of carrying the overhead expenses of express cars remains the same for the railways, but they are not getting the business to help make them pay. If the rates were lowered the volume of business would be almost doubled, and the railways would find express a better paying business.

"I used to be head of a circle which bought fruit co-operatively. We used to buy plums, peaches and pears. Express rates so increased the cost of the fruit that we stopped buying it and now I attempt to raise my own fruit and buy practically none. We are also trying to teach the women to preserve squash, marrow, citron and cucumber."

At the conclusion of Mrs. Elliott's evidence a fruit wholesaler pointed out that Mrs. Elliott had shown him very plainly what had happened to the fruit business because of high express rates.

Auto Cheaper than Express

D. G. Mackenzie, secretary of the United Farmers of Manitoba, laid stress upon the necessity of encouraging dairy production, poultry, produce for the table and other by-products of the farm in order to extend the basis of agricultural operations. This necessary diversification would be hindered by an advance of express rates as most of this kind of produce was carried by express, and even now the rates were a heavy burden. To the argument of the companies that costs of operation were high he replied that the farmers had precisely the same conditions to meet; their labor costs were high and all production costs were high, consequently the farmers were entitled to as much consideration in the making of rates as the companies.

T. H. Rumble, of Miami, told the commission that he hauled eggs 80 miles to market in his automobile and found it cheaper than shipping by express.

Thorough investigation into labor and material costs was urged by Hon. R. W. Craig, attorney-general of Manitoba, the railway commission should itself go fully into that question and make a report in order to satisfy the people that rates were reasonable. The time was particularly inopportune for increasing rates which would inevitably accentuate the spread between producers' and consumers' prices. The onus was really on the companies to

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The Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, Man.

M.A.C. Wins Macdonald Trophy

The stock judging team from Manitoba Agricultural College was successful in winning the bronze buffalo trophy at Toronto Royal Winter Fair, offered by W. C. Macdonald Company, of Montreal. This competition is open to agricultural colleges of Canada and the United States. This year three teams competed and Guelph won first place, Manitoba second, Saskatchewan third. A. A. Brown, of Deloraine, and J. D. Guild, of Kemnay, stood first and second respectively in the aggregate competition. R. M. White and J. D. Guild, stood first in beef cattle and swine respectively, and won gold medals for their work. The whole trip was made possible by the generous offer of the trustees of the Macdonald estate, who financed the trip of the Western teams to Toronto and the winners to Chicago. After leaving Toronto, the Manitoba team visited Chicago fair, but were not quite so fortunate there, as they took fifteenth place in the competition in which 20 teams took part. The M.A.C. team was composed of: J. D. Guild, A. A. Brown, Nelson Young, R. M. White and A. Newman. Prof. J. M. Brown accompanied and coached the team.

The City of Victoria, B.C. is making an active bid for the tourist and vacation business which has been going from the prairie provinces to California for some years past. The Coast city quite correctly insists that it has just as much to offer as California, and an increasing number of people are including Victoria in their holiday trips.

The Brain Growers' Guide

Winnipeg, Wednesday, December 19, 1923

The Season's Greetings

The "whirligig of time" has brought 'round another Christmas and the cheery salutation, "A Merry Christmas" will be on the lips of millions. As the customary greetings are exchanged, how many will stop to think of the great work that is yet to be done before the ideal which finds expression in the joy of Christmas passes beyond an individual relation and is incorporated in the established relations of nations? Today, millions in Europe, millions whose faith begins with the heralding of "Peace on earth, goodwill among men," are enmeshed in the toils of national policies that are utterly irreconcilable with that great proclamation, that are engendering strife and ill-will and making steadily for another horrible war.

The message of Christmas needs no special emphasis in prairie homes, for these homes have ever stood for peace and goodwill, for the way of co-operation and friendly intercourse for the betterment of a common humanity. They can wholeheartedly voice that aspiration in the greetings of the season, and receive such greetings in the knowledge that they mean something which they are actually endeavoring to realize in daily life. It is in that spirit that The Guide extends to all its readers the season's greetings and sincere wishes for A Merry Christmas.

For National Welfare

The defeat sustained by the government in the Halifax by-election and its precarious position in the House of Commons, is having the effect, according to Ottawa gossip, of reviving Liberal desires for closer relations with the Progressives. Fear of something like this in which the Liberals will remember that they have a tariff plank in their platform which calls for "substantial reductions of the burden of customs taxation," and which the Liberal party pledged itself "to implement by legislation," is probably one of the causes of the revival of protectionist agitation in the East. Canadian manufacturers are being urged to resist to the full extent of their influence any further reductions in the tariff, the argument being that manufacturing is today in a depressed state and reductions in the tariff will accentuate the depression and retard the development of manufacturing industry.

It is no doubt true that manufacturing industry in Canada is depressed, but that is true of manufacturing everywhere, and in periods of depression competition tends to become very acute. In that respect, however, the manufacturers are in a much better position than the farmers. They have a substantial amount of protection, and even such specific reductions in the tariff as are proposed would leave them well protected against competition. The farmer is not protected in by far the larger part of his production; he cannot be protected in that vast produce, grain and livestock, which is produced for export, for it is the export price which determines the price received for the part reserved for home consumption. Moreover, the market for this exportable produce is exceptionally depressed owing to the condition of things in Europe, whereas the manufacturer has at least the home market secured to him by the tariff.

There is not a particle of evidence going to show that such reductions of the tariff as have been asked for by the Progressive group in parliament would materially hurt the manufacturing industry of Canada, and so far

from desiring to hinder the development of manufacturing it is the contention of those who urge reductions in the tariff that a lower tariff would stimulate industry and thus be beneficial to the manufacturers, no less than to the farmers and the country as a whole. Canada's tariff policy began in an effort to encourage what are generally called "infant industries"; it was to be a temporary policy only, and the onus of proof that the tariff is still necessary for these industries rests upon the manufacturers, not the opponents of the tariff, and so far the manufacturers have not furnished the proof. The case for lower tariff still stands upon its merits as a policy which would stimulate the entire economic life of the country and improve the condition of the whole people.

Manitoba By-Elections

The two by-elections in Carillon and Mountain, on the 24th, due to the appointment of two new ministers, are arousing keen political interest throughout Manitoba. All the forces at the command of the Conservative party are being concentrated in the constituency of Mountain to defeat Mr. Cannon, the new minister of education. The most astounding feature of the Conservative campaign is the bold manner in which their speakers compare the governmental expenditures of today with the expenditures of the Roblin government, and from this comparison accuse the Bracken government of extravagance. The taxpayers of Manitoba are staggering under a burden of debt brought on by wasteful extravagance and graft in the construction of public buildings and public institutions, far beyond the needs of the province. The great bulk of that expenditure was incurred or made obligatory by the late Conservative government, and it is the interest on these huge debts which is the chief cause of heavy taxation today. Among those prominent in the Conservative party at present are not a few who were prominent supporters of the Roblin regime of a few years ago when this heavy financial obligation was laid upon the province. To listen to these men today criticizing the Bracken government for extravagance, is an exhibition of sheer nerve that would be hard to duplicate. It is hardly conceivable that the electors of Mountain constituency will reject a government that is actually practicing economy in favor of a party whose record when in power only a few years ago was a veritable orgy of extravagance, waste and corruption.

Britain's Political Problem

Despite the fact that he has not a majority in the House of Commons although he heads the largest group, Premier Baldwin has decided to carry on until a vote of the House compels him to resign. The situation is undoubtedly complex and without precedent in British politics. The phenomenal rise of the Labor party presages a complete change in parliamentary divisions, and with it important changes in constitutional procedure. For these changes parliament is unprepared although the warning was given last year that the Labor party was an element that was making the changes necessary.

The British constitution is a growth, not a creation, and Mr. Baldwin by his decision follows the British practice of letting a situation work itself out. The Labor party has announced its readiness to form a government, and so far the Liberals and Conservatives have shown no great inclination to form a coalition. Labor cannot carry on by

itself, the Conservative vote alone being enough to swamp it, while the Conservatives could carry on with support by the Liberals. A support, however, that Liberal leaders declare it will not get. Perhaps the outcome will be a new party formed by moderate Liberals and moderate Conservatives—a centre party, which, it is said, is the aspiration of Mr. Lloyd George.

There is much talk of another election, but it is difficult to see how another election, even with a reformed electoral system with the use of the transferable vote, would materially alter the situation. The Labor representation in the House is in almost exact accordance with its voting strength in the constituencies. The Liberal representation is about 30 below its proportion of the popular vote, and the Conservative about 25 in excess. Proportional representation, therefore, would probably increase the Liberal representation at the expense of the Conservatives, but still leave the Conservatives with the largest group, and with Liberal and Labor nearly equal. It would not provide a way out of the parliamentary difficulty, which is a natural result of the state of opinion in the constituencies. Britain is, in fact, face to face with the problem that every country with responsible parliamentary government is bound to reach sooner or later, the problem of forming a government out of diverse groups representing diverse opinions in the electorate.

An Economic War

At a banquet given in his honor by the British Empire League, in London, on November 5, Hon. W. E. Warren, premier of Newfoundland, is reported as saying:

We could do with another war, not a war of bloodshed, but an economic war, and we are well able to afford it. If this country is able to pay its debts and forgive its debtors—has money enough to do so—it can put some other people out of business.

These are remarkable words to come from one who by his position is the spokesman for a whole people. What they mean in effect is this: War should be transformed from a strife with arms to a strife with tariffs, and instead of putting a nation out of business by blockading it with battleships we should put it out of business by blockading its trade with tariffs. This kind of war we—the British Empire presumably—are well able to afford, because we have the money to pay our debts and forgive our debtors.

There we have the protectionist mind functioning normally. Every nation should aim to create for itself a monopoly of trade and should use protective tariffs for the purpose of putting "some other people out of business." Trade in fact should be war on another plane.

The absurdity of the whole thing becomes apparent on a little reflection. Britain is not paying her debts with money but with goods, although at the present time, owing to the prevailing economic confusion, the process is very obscure. Normally, however, that is the case. International trading is simply the exchange of goods, and if "some other people" are put out of business then a customer is lost. David Hume put forward the true doctrine 170 years ago, when he pointed out that the prosperity of one nation was a help and not a hindrance to its neighbors. "Not only as a man, but as a British subject," he wrote, "I pray for the flourishing commerce of Germany, Spain, Italy, and even France itself." France at that time being "the enemy." Humanity can no more afford a war of tariffs than it can a war of

arms; all experience has shown that tariff wars produce disastrous results to the combatants. What the world needs today is less and not more tariffs; not more war of any kind but the reign of peace.

The Grand Reunion

The Right Hon. Arthur Meighen and the Hon. Robert Rogers, have kissed and made up the differences which estranged them when Mr. Rogers tumbled out of the Union government a few years ago. We presume the party campaign funds are now in one chest, and we have assurance from the two ex-ministers that their hearts now beat as one, and that the path of true love is no longer beset with thorns of misunderstanding. The new sign for the headquarters of the Grand Old Party should now read, "The Old Firm, Under New Management." The reconciliation was effected last week at Saskatoon, and it was a most touching scene when the two wanderers appeared on the same platform and declared mutual forgiveness. The press reports kindly draw the veil over this domestic scene, but we can easily believe that strong men wept and that tears of joy were shed in large quantities. At any rate it was a most important event in the history of the family. Mr. Rogers assured the public that Mr. Meighen was a fine chap, and Mr. Meighen was equally emphatic that Mr. Rogers was a splendid fellow, and both of them swore eternal allegiance to the principles of their party.

It is charming and delightful to see the faithful all back in the fold again. It is wonderful to witness such devotion to the undying principles of the party. But somehow it seems too bad that both the ex-ministers were so wrought up over the reconciliation that they entirely forgot to explain to the convention just what those undying principles were to which they so strongly adhered. Of course, they explained that they were going out after the scalps of

the unscrupulous and blankety-blank Liberals and the bumptious Progressives, but we knew that anyway. Then Mr. Rogers explained how the United Grain Growers and the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company were plundering the farmers. But that was no news either for Mr. Meighen told us all about it two years ago when the "false bottoms" fell out of his government and he himself had a bad fall in Portage, and Mr. Rogers took a nasty tumble in Lisgar.

Both Mr. Meighen and Mr. Rogers entirely neglected to explain the scheme which from their eastern utterances we know they have in readiness to cure the hard times in this country. We had hoped that they would let the farmers of this country in on the secret of how they would be made rich by increased tariff taxation upon farm machinery, clothing, boots and shoes, etc. Mr. Meighen, in Eastern Canada, seldom fails to describe his panacea where it is already understood. It is unfortunate that both he and Mr. Rogers forgot it out here where the farmers find it so hard to realize that protection makes them rich. We can only understand this serious omission by concluding that the excitement of the reconciliation was such as to drive all minor matters out of their minds. It is too important a matter, however, to be overlooked for very long. When the joys of the honeymoon are over and the two ex-ministers have again settled down to regular housekeeping, we shall no doubt hear from them on how to get rich by increasing the cost of living.

Anyway, it was a grand and glorious time and a most touching incident.

Cash Grain Tickets are Taxable Receipts

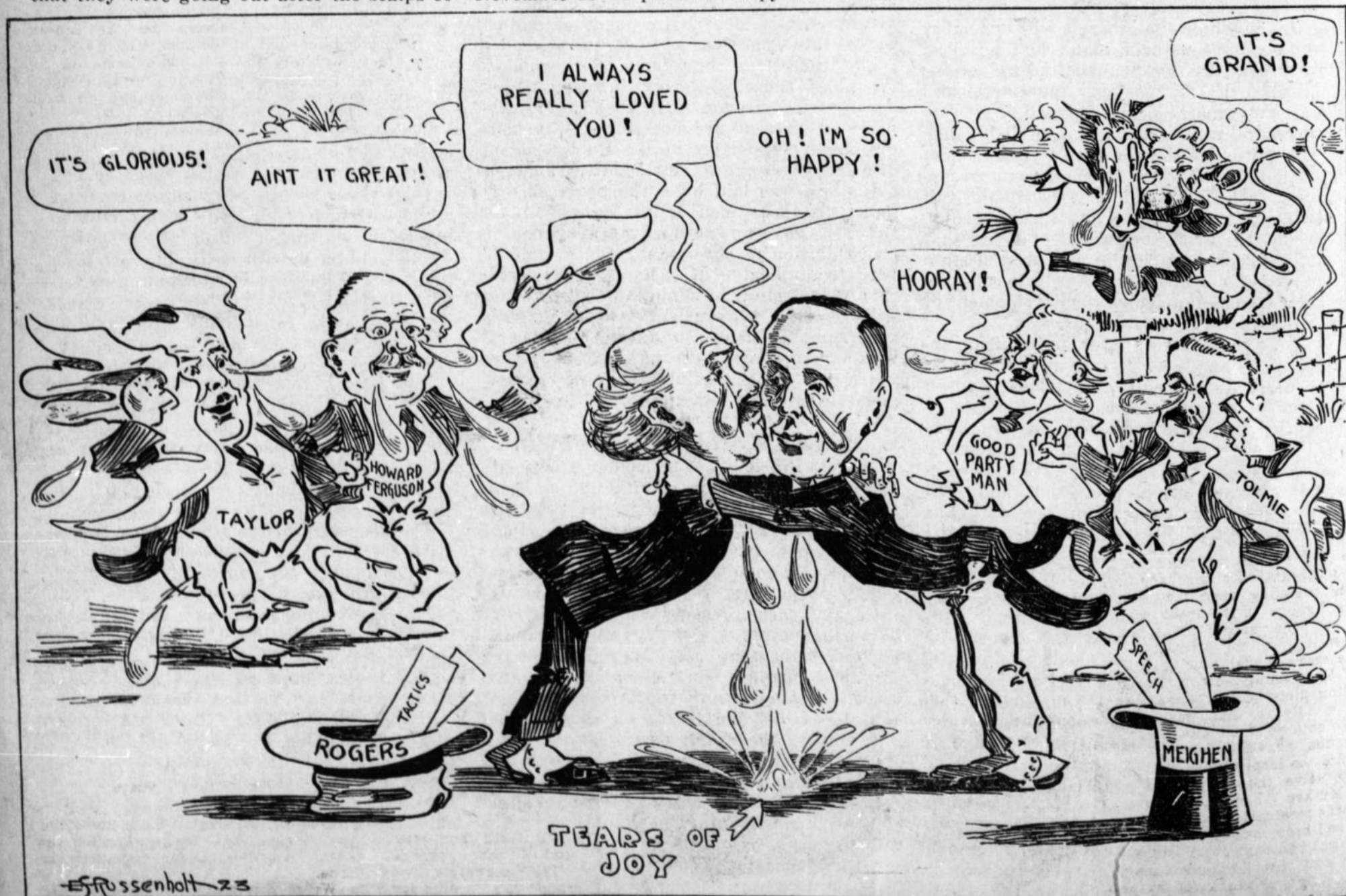
A number of enquiries having come to The Guide with regard to the stamp tax on cash grain tickets, we referred the matter to the Department of Customs and Excise, and on November 28 we published copy of a ruling

of the department furnished by the Winnipeg office.

We are now in receipt of further information. The ruling published in the issue of November 28 was correct as far as it went, but it did not go far enough and lent itself to a very erroneous interpretation. The department has ruled that a cash grain ticket is a receipt and taxable as such whether or not the words "Received payment" appear on it. Cash grain tickets where the amount is \$10 or over must therefore bear a two-cent stamp, and the law places the responsibility of affixing the stamp upon the person who issues the receipt.

It is important that this should be clearly understood for the law provides a penalty "not exceeding" \$100 for failure to affix the necessary stamp on receipts where the amount is \$10 or over. Farmers should, therefore, affix a two-cent stamp on all cash grain tickets of \$10 or over when cashing them. No one else is under any obligation by law to see that the stamp is affixed, but the person who signs the ticket and fails to affix the stamp may find himself in court and liable to a fine of \$100.

Accepting the opinion of a congress of German educationists the education department of the Prussian government issued an order substituting English for French as the predominant foreign language in the school curriculum. The Rhine provinces are part of Prussia, but in the part of the provinces under French control, the French have prohibited the carrying out of the change. As the treaty expressly lays it down that the Allies may only interfere with German law in the provinces when necessary for the maintenance and safety of the Allied forces, it would appear that the French regard the substitution of English for French in the schools as a menace to their safety. Perhaps, however, there is another and more logical, if not more moral reason.



THE GRAND REUNION

At the Conservative convention at Saskatoon, on December 11, Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen and Hon. Robt. Rogers announced they had healed their differences. —Daily Press.

The Big Muskeg

CHAPTER I

A Bolt from the Blue

EIGHTEEN below; fair weather for December in New Manitoba, where the forest, though it chills the soil till midsummer, yet shuts out the razor-edge of the winds that make the prairies, farther south, an icy inferno.

Here the bush, which had seemed to stretch out illimitably, thinned into bedraggled patches among the uperopping rocks. A little farther, and it began once more; the break was like a great curving arm thrust into the heart of it, as if some giant fingers had plucked up the trees in handfuls and scooped the foundation from the frozen soil, and then had been withdrawn, leaving the imprints of the great finger-tips.

These finger-tips were huge sink-holes, sometimes filled with water, so that they formed clear lakes; more often sodden sponges of decayed vegetable matter, oozy, treacherous, and unstable. The finger-lines were the circular ridges marking the subsidence of the mud. The thumb was Big Muskeg, which the two men who stood on the top of the humpbacked ridge could see extended beneath them.

Big Muskeg, at this point less than half a mile across, was everywhere of unsounded depth. It curved and wound, a river of ooze, now broadening into chains of lakes, now narrowing into gullies; here and there crossed by trails, but never stable, nowhere offering firm foundation for the permanent way of the Missatibi Railroad.

The Missatibi was a branch line, feeding the new road that was pushing northward toward the ports-to-be on Hudson Bay. It linked with it at Clayton, whence it was being extended eastward into a virgin wilderness. Even in the days when half a dozen companies were pegging out ways for lines that were to divert the wheat north, Joe Bostock's line had been the joke of legislatures and financiers. Those other lines that were being built into Clayton passed through the wheat-lands; Joe's line ran east out of Clayton into a wilderness. Joe Bostock had secured his capital, but he had no competitors.

And slowly the Missatibi, with its small shareholders and limited means, had gone ahead. The first location parties had cleared a road to Big Muskeg. The rails had been laid half-way. But that was all, save for the partly constructed shacks and buildings for the workmen there, and the sheds for the construction material that had not yet been freighted in.

Joe, standing with legs straddling the top of the ridge, turned to Wilton Carruthers, the chief engineer of the company, with eyebrows arched and humorous enquiry on his weather-beaten old face. There was no need for speech at that moment, because the mind of each man dwelt on the identical problem.

Looking down from the crest, Wilton could see the cleared way extending to Big Muskeg's shore, and the empty construction camp. That was all; yet it was a sign and symbol of the power to come, visible to the creative imagination which materialized it into trestled creeks, with trucks and locomotives rumbling over the temporary standard-gauge, to the accompaniment of the snort of steam traction-engines, the scrunch of the steam-shovel, and the rip of the grading-plow.

Wilton pictured the scene more vividly in that waste of snow because of the silence about him, drawing from it in desire the inspiration that was to solve the problem of Big Muskeg. That problem had made pessimists of men whose faith had been the Missatibi line, whose god had been Joe Bostock.

The two men had come east by dog-sleigh, accompanied by two half-breeds, Jean Passepartout and Papillon, the one in charge of the dogs, the other carrying the transit-compass.

By Victor Rousseau

"Author of 'Wooden Spoil,' etc."

They had camped seven miles back on the preceding evening, and had set out at daybreak to survey the swamp-lands from the ridge. For the problem which had suddenly risen up to confront them clamored for solution before construction could be carried forward, and on its solution depended the future of the Missatibi.

It was not their first clash with it, nor their second; but neither man had dreamed of its magnitude. With the physical eye neither Joe nor Carruthers could hope to accomplish anything. Wilton was seeking inspiration, although he did not know it.

Had he known it, he was the last man who would have admitted the existence within his mind of this element of the dreamer and enthusiast.

Theoretically he was endeavoring to discern some place where a foundation might be coaxed above the unstable, quaking surface with trestling and crib-work, a crossing that combined the least possible deviation of route with no more than four-fifths of one per cent. of grade and four degrees of curve.

Actually and unconsciously he was seeking to interpret the natural convulsion which had, in time immeasurably remote, cloven the ridge of the land and set the swamp seeping into the fissure.

If he could read the meaning of that convulsion, understand the mind and mood of the great Architect, he could see, as if clairvoyantly, just where the muskeg lay thinnest on the roots of the hills, where ballast would appear the soonest above the sucking swamp. But he could read nothing. And he shook his fist at the long, sinuous, distended snake that wound into the distance, as if it were a personal enemy.

Joe Bostock wrinkled his eyes against the sunlight.

"That's what I was thinking, Wilton," he said. "But it's got to be done. Somebody'll build it some day if the Missatibi doesn't."

That was the nearest speech

to despair that Joe, invincible, exuberant optimist that he was, had ever made. The situation was worse than either man had imagined, and Wilton felt the responsibility, for he had looked over the ground before without investigating the optimistic report of the surveyor, that there was bed-rock a few feet beneath the portage.

Weeks, months of resurvey must ensue, with work halted, and the Missatibi's precarious capital diminishing to vanishing-point, while the story of the great blunder percolated through the lobbies of the provincial legislature.

Wilton remembered half a dozen of the members whom he had approached when the Missatibi scheme was first bruited abroad. There was, in particular, Tom Bowyer, of the New Northern line, his many interests entrenched behind the bulwarks of political influence. Joe Bostock had suggested an amalgamation in the belief that Tom Bowyer could wreck the bill in the legislature. But Tom had laughed in Joe's face, and had not even opposed the measure. "Go ahead with your muskrat line, Joe!" he had said. "I won't hinder you."

The soubriquet had stuck. The Missatibi was the "muskrat line" to its enemies thereafter. And muskrat-skins seemed about all the tribute of its holdings on either side of its route. But this contempt had neither shaken

that most of them had been in Bowyer's pay. Bowyer and Bostock were old rivals. They had reported Big Muskeg to be an insignificant swamp with a firm underbed about the portage. It could be crossed, of course, in the end, since nature always yielded to man. But the Missatibi must either swing a huge loop around it, through territory unsurveyed, or set to itself the task of filling those unsounded depths with thousands of tons of rock.

"Damn you!" said Wilton, shaking his fist toward the valley. "We'll beat you yet."

But he was thinking of Tom Bowyer and his gang at the capital.

Joe Bostock came toward him. "I guess it ain't so hard, Wilton," he began. "I've been thinking—"

"We've made a bad blunder, Tom," Wilton interrupted impetuously. "Crooked work, without doubt—though I can't imagine why Bowyer's gang should take the trouble to hurt us unless, of course, they guess—"

Joe Bostock shook his head. "No, they haven't guessed that, Wilton," he answered. "I'll stake my hat on that. There ain't nobody except me and you and Kitty knows. It's jest bad luck, Wilton—"

Joe could never sense treachery nor bring himself to believe in its possibility; and if that weakness had kept him, in the main, a poor man, it had bound his friends to him with unbreakable bonds.

"At the best it's gross negligence," said Wilton. "Those surveyors scamped their work. I accepted their reports. I couldn't go out with the transit and aneroid and follow them all up to check their results. But I might have sounded Big Muskeg. I didn't." His voice choked. "Joe, if you have any sense, you'll fire me first," he said.

Joe Bostock laid his hands on the other's shoulder, and the humorous smile came on his face. "Well, I guess not, Wilton," he said. "You ain't to blame. You've done all that mortal man could do. The Missatibi couldn't have been built at all without you. Fire you? Why, Kitty'd have my life if I dared suggest such a thing."

Wilton frowned involuntarily at the reference to the pretty young wife whom Joe Bostock had married in Winnipeg the year before. Joe's first marriage had been unhappy; it had been long ago, and Wilton knew there had been a separation, though Joe was always reticent about that.

Kitty was five and thirty years younger than Joe, and she had intervened into a fast friendship of more than a decade between Joe and Wilton. It made a difference, as it always does, though Joe had sworn it should not, and Kitty thought the world of Wilton.

Wilton could never understand his secret feeling about Kitty. She was devoted to Joe. Perhaps that was what lay beneath his latent antagonism toward her. He was jealous of her. He was jealous of a woman's love for Joe.

"I guess not!" said Joe Bostock again, pressing his hand hard down on Wilton's shoulder.

And, at that instant, Wilton heard the crack of a rifle, and felt a violent blow on the upper part of the left arm, which knocked him to the ground. As he fell, Joe Bostock pitched forward upon him.

CHAPTER II

The Muskeg's Snare

Twice Joe's lips quivered, as if he was trying to speak. Then the lower jaw dropped and the eyes rolled upward. A greyish pallor crept over the face.

Wilton saw that Joe's mackinaw had a tiny tear in it, over the breast. A trickle of blood seeped through the

Continued on Page 18



Tripping over roots of trees and reeling through a swimming world, Wilton staggered on with Joe's body over his shoulder.

Joe's faith nor weakened Wilton's courage.

The surveyors who made the preliminary reconnaissance had shirked their work and lied. Wilton suspected

In the Valley of the Peace

ABOUT forty years ago, I have been told, a man was trying to grow wheat on what is now the edge of the Sarcee Reserve, near Calgary. It froze for several years in succession. At last a crop ripened, and the town went on a three-day celebration in honor of the event. Southern Alberta has produced some pretty fair wheat since then, and the School of Agriculture, at Olds, claims the record yield of 105 bushels per acre.

As a lad in Eastern Canada, following avidly every scrap of information concerning all parts of the West, I remember it was considered problematical whether oats could be dependably ripened in the Edmonton district. Oats are regularly raised there now of a yield and sample that are the envy of a continent. They even raise wheat and potatoes, yes, and crab apples have been matured. A variety of corn has been developed at the Provincial University and yields equivalent to 40 bushels per acre are reported in 1923. Northward the star of agriculture takes its way.

Upwards of two decades ago, Warburton Pike, the celebrated English traveller, returning from a trip to the Barren Grounds, traversed the navigable reaches of the Peace River—and some of the others—and delivered himself in this wise. I quote from memory:

"It cannot be denied that crops can be successfully raised in the bottom of the narrow river valley, as the well-managed farms of Sheridan Lawrence, at Fort Vermilion, and Allie Brick, at Peace River Crossing, attest; but climb the steep banks to the plateau above, notice the frost on a summer morning, and let us have an end of this talk of sending white men to starve in a country fit only for the Indian, the buffalo and the bear."

Tomatoes, Beans and Squash

I live on one of those plateaus, 2,480 feet above sea level, about 130 miles north of Edmonton, by latitude, and some 200 West. There is no open water larger than a creek within quite a few miles. Yet this past summer we not only matured all the leading western varieties of wheat, oats, barley and peas successfully, but also flax and buckwheat. Fall wheat and alfalfa usually winter well, though injured by trying conditions in 1922-23. Sunflowers, as usual, were a safe ensilage crop. Six or seven hundred bushels of potatoes and several hundred of roots were cellared. Over a bushel of tomatoes matured in the garden, as did corn for table use, squash and pumpkins.

Tulips in solid beds of glory, daffodils, iris, and one peony bloomed from bulbs planted in the autumn. Dahlias, hollyhocks and exquisite gladioli were among the riot of color in the flower beds, which, of course, included all such species as calendula, asters, sweet peas, pansies, phlox, poppies and dozens more.

Our hardy ornamental shrubs include the lilac (notably the Chinese), the caragana, Tartarian honeysuckle, the native Mountain ash, and others of varying degrees of suitability.

Honey bees did well and worked on second-growth sweet clover, more or less intermittently, until the middle of October, actually rearing brood until mid-September.

As this is written (November 17), the air is soft; the ground is practically devoid of frost and teams are working on the land. It is not always possible to do so this late, but we usually count on plowing until the first week in November, and on two previous occasions (1914 and 1917) we plowed till around the twentieth.

Alert, Professional Men in the East Annoyed W. D. Albright last winter by asking him if the Peace River Country was Habitable---This Article Contains His Answer

Good Crops Regularly Raised

During ten years' farming experience in Grande Prairie, which is the most south-westerly portion of the Peace River region, the writer has never failed to raise a surplus of potatoes and vegetables to sell, even in the early days before he had learned how to garden to the best advantage, and before his experimental work had assumed its present proportions. Neither has his land failed in any year to mature wheat, oats and barley, though frost occasionally lowers the grade of the wheat. On one occasion the wheat and barley were a very poor sample and the oats were not used for seed. It was the only exception. It is true his land is high, and, therefore, less subject to frost than low-lying flat farms in the same neighborhood. On the other hand it is less safe than various areas in the vicinity of the larger lakes, and is perhaps not far from a fair average of the region as a whole.

And what manner of country is it? Half a province cannot be minutely described in a paragraph. Broadly speaking, it may be characterized as a silt-loam table land through which the rivers gash great trough valleys, with grassy, wooded, or cut-bank slopes. Multiply by three or four the width and depth of the Saskatchewan gulch at Edmonton, and you have some idea of the Peace Valley along its upper navigable reaches after it emerges from the

severely some of the wooded region the railroad traverses en route. Yet considerable portions of this have as good soil and contour as the choicest prairies, and only need wholesale clearing by controlled fire at seasons when the soil will not burn, to make them fit for agriculture. The inferior land and the merchantable conifers should, of course, be reserved and systematically protected.

Soil Varies in Quality

So far as the writer's observation has gone, the soil is a black loam, varying anywhere from two to twenty inches, but running usually five or six, generally underlaid with a thin layer of white silt clay, and this with a chocolate subsoil ranging into blue clay or sometimes sand layers. The usual rock formation encountered in drilling is sandstone. Alkali as known in Manitoba is rare, but nearly all the bed-rock water carries a certain amount of soda, and is soft for washing purposes. Some of the springs are rather strongly charged with soda. Contact with sub-soil clay makes the water hard.

Altitude unites with latitude to give the upper Peace River country a somewhat low mean temperature, despite the influence of the chinooks, which break and delightfully modify what would otherwise be a somewhat intense winter.

An outstanding feature is the sharp difference in temperature between high and low levels within the limits of local topography. To an outsider it is almost unbelievable. I have on one occasion known a difference of 15 degrees Fahrenheit between two official instruments three miles apart, and not representing the extremes of contour at that. Corresponding variations occur in summer-night temperatures, and explain some of the libels indulged unwittingly by early explorers, who naturally camped on the low ground to be near water and took readings there. Experience teaches the settler to grow grain and gardens at first on the elevated slopes and forage on the flats.

While the precipitation is neither heavy nor dependable in date of occurrence, a redeeming feature is the limited evaporation, which spares the crops from scorching in such a severe drought year as 1922. It also, in ordinary seasons, gives a prolonged period for maturation, resulting in big yields and plump samples when frost does not interfere. On the other hand, it retards vital processes in the soil, causing fibre to decay slowly and also stinting crops for nitrates even when there is abundance of latent fertility in the soil. For this reason thorough working of the land is usually essential to the production of full crops.

Crops

Oats and winter rye are the most dependable forage crops, brome and western rye the most suitable grasses known, alfalfa and sweet clover the best adapted legumes thus far demonstrated. Sunflowers are reasonably safe on the higher lands, but the nights are too cold for fodder corn to yield heavily. Flax and peas may be grown in a minor way on the safer lands. Barley is a reasonably reliable crop for hog feed.

All kinds of livestock flourish.

Beef cattle are at a discount because of the price, but there are those who regard the present as a good time to do herd building. The needy settler ties to the dairy cow. Three creameries cater for his product, collecting afield by motor and train. Hogs are one of the very best paying lines of production if not stocked imprudently. Turkeys are raised quite numerously.

Peace River agriculture presents some puzzling problems but none incapable of solution. Soil and climate guarantee that as a mixed-farming region its future is assured. When the coal, iron, water power and other resources of northern British Columbia are developed and steel laid directly to established ports on the Pacific Coast, the Peace River country will be in a most enviable position as to markets, and will strike a stride that will astonish a continent.

Adapted to Mixed Farming

In the Peace River country, as all over the West, there is a marked proneness to feature wheat but long rail hauls together with the slump in world prices for that commodity have imparted a considerable impetus to mixed farming. Many settlers have turned to the milking of a few cows. Hogs are a peculiarly suitable line of livestock since they may be shipped alive to Edmonton and there converted into a market product which carries economically to its consumer in Britain. Conjoined with a reasonable ration of skim-milk, three pounds of grain, or even less, will produce a pound of pork. Without milk it may take four or five. Of course, in unskilled hands the ratio runs up to six, eight or ten.

Blessed with one of the very best of climates for fattening cattle, with a minimum of expense for shelter, the Peace River country still ships most of its horned stock in the fall, thus missing one of the best opportunities for remunerative winter employment. However, the change to mixed farming is coming surely, and in this development the district is bound to find its future. Experience shows that it is not yet a strictly safe wheat-raising country, outside a few favored localities. It is not a ranching country since the winter feeding period is too long. But to the bona fide settler who comes to make a home, gets a little good stock around him and looks after it properly, being careful always to keep a reserve of feed ahead, the Peace River country offers rare attractions. Small fruits do well in most seasons if properly cultivated. Seventy-two pounds of red currants were picked from six bushes in 1921.

In power for cultivation we have run the gamut from "bulls" to tractors, though the latter are not used much of late, and most of us are forgetting how to hitch up oxen. Horses of a serviceable stamp perform the bulk of the work.

Pests are substantially confined to insects, rabbits mice, coyotes, game birds and birds of prey. Prairie chicken and partridge stalk about familiarly as domestic fowl. Among insects the cutworm, aphid, wireworm red turnip beetle, and, this year, the grasshopper, are worthy of mention. The latter seemed to yield well to poisoning and natural parasites ere the summer closed. Gophers are not supposed to exist north of the Athabasca. Barn rats and potato bugs are thus far conspicuous by their absence.

The population is English-speaking with but rare exceptions, drawn from Eastern Canada, the United States, Great Britain, and even from as far away as Australia. Quite a few of the earliest settlers had South African veterans' scrip, which explains in part the unusually substantial type of settlers who first came into the district. The difficulty of ingress in the early days is another and more general explanation, for only the most stout-hearted faced and survived the ordeal of the 550 mile Grouard-Peace River-Dunvegan route, or the 260 miles of quagmire on the Edson trail.



Potatoes grown at Beaverlodge, in 1923, yielded 463 bus. 58 lbs. per acre after rejecting those touched with frost.

mountains at Hudson Hope. Northeast, towards Fort Vermilion, the banks recede and the land slopes gently back from the river. Remote from the main channels the country takes the form of a more or less undulating plateau, threaded by tree-lined streams or swelling back in long poplar-dotted slopes from numerous lakes and occasional sloughs.

Visitors to the north country are invariably enraptured by the first glimpses of the larger prairie areas, but disposed to discount much too

Kota Wheat

Seed Growers and Cerealists Give Their Estimates of the Value of this New Variety Which Has Come Into Prominence Because of Its Rust-Resistant Power

THE rust problem is the greatest one facing the wheat growers of Manitoba and Saskatchewan today. Thousands of acres which were sown to wheat last year will be devoted to some other crop in the coming year because of the great losses sustained through this plant disease. Growers are anxiously asking, "what other crop can I grow?" At such a juncture the interest in any wheat that purports to be immune from serious rust damage is bound to be high. The only variety for which such a claim can be made is Kota, a new variety originated, as its name implies, in Dakota.

The Guide has gone to considerable trouble to collect the opinions from practical farmers and others who have had most experience with this wheat, and some of the best letters are reproduced herewith.

From Central Saskatchewan

To C. J. Turnbull, The Guide is indebted for a full account of his experiences with Kota, and an estimate as to its future serviceability. Says Mr. Turnbull:

"I grew on my own farm at Govan, Sask., about 100 acres of Kota wheat which is now harvested, but not threshed (letter dated August 29). It turned out a really wonderful crop, considering the conditions of soil cultivation at seeding, which were the worst we ever had on my farm, and I think perhaps about the worst that could possibly obtain with anyone going by the name of farmer. I was up at the farm during spring seeding, but was laid up with a very severe attack of pneumonia, and my help were down with measles. We simply had to do best we could. We had no summerfallow for this wheat, and the land had all to be plowed. I, myself, sick as I was, took one of the plows and also one of the drills, and none of the land received more than one light stroke of the harrow, and part of it not harrowed at all, the wheat being drilled in in that condition.

"The seeding of this wheat was not done until May 16 to 19. The land was very dry at the time and no rain fell for two weeks after, so that grain was very late indeed in coming up. The stand was good indeed, ripened uniformly, with good heads. Several parties who examined the fields stated it was six-rowed, but this was not the case—the six rows did not go more than about half-way to the top. This, however, was better than any Marquis that I examined, there being only four rows in the Marquis.

"The straw is not as stiff as Marquis,

but appears to be similar to the old Red Fife in this respect. The sample, judged by what I rubbed out in the hand, is good—considerably better, I think, than the seed sown. Of course threshing will prove the yield, but I figure that it will run from 20 to 25 bushels per acre. There were no blighted heads at all in the crop—it was remarkably free in this respect.

"The wheat harvested nicely, without shelling; although the crop, for the most part, was dead ripe. Judging from my own experience with this year's crop, I think there is a great future for this wheat in Western Canada, on spring and fall plowing. On summerfallow, it may lodge, and as stated above, appears to be inferior to Marquis in this respect.

"Overlooked in connection with my crop to mention the item of rust. The leaves rust readily, but the stem was practically free, and apparently no injury whatever to the grain. I was told that some neighboring fields of Marquis showed considerable rust. I did not personally examine these fields, except one, the grain of which was considerably shrunken. I was also told by other parties that one or two crops in that district were hardly worth cutting, on account of rust.

Another Favorable Report

M. A. Williams, of Atwater, Sask., has an experience to recount which is probably typical of most men's in a season like 1923, with an abundance of moisture that brings out the worst defect of Kota, and at the same time produces the rust which penalizes our best hard spring wheat varieties. Here is his letter to The Guide:

"I got two bushels of Kota wheat last spring, and seeded it on well worked breaking, seeding about one and a quarter bushels to the acre. It grew up well and looked very promising until about July 25. We had a very heavy rain and wind storm then and the Kota went down badly. It did not get up good after that storm and so ripened in a leaning position, which was very much against it. It grew at least six feet on an average, and there is enough of a stand for 40 bushels an acre, but will be pleased if it turns out 20 to 25 bushels under the circumstances.

"The straw is nice and bright, and although there is rust on the leaf, there is practically no rust on the straw.

"I had registered Marquis on similar land alongside of the Kota. This grew up about four and a half feet, stood the

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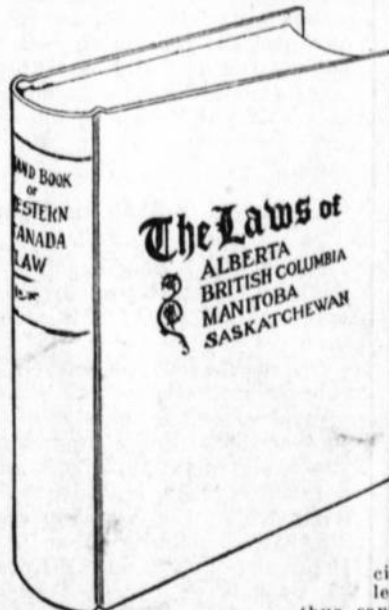


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The Grain Growers' Guide - Winnipeg, Man.

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The above is a picture of the stook loader invented by A. B. and Otto Beingsner, of Champion, Alta. As a feat of craftsmanship, it is remarkable in that these two gentlemen, we are given to understand, fabricated the whole thing with their own hands, save the castings, which were taken off old binders. But the implement will arouse a great deal more interest than this distinction gives it, for according to the claim of the inventors, it is a tested and practical piece of farm machinery, with some marked advantages over the machines now in use for the same purpose. Because of its light draft, two horses can handle it, although F. A. Beingsner, to whom The Guide is indebted for photo and information, states that for use day in and day out, it might be advisable to employ more power. The sheaf loader is very simple in construction. A large drum revolving in the opposite direction to the traction wheel is equipped with teeth 16 inches long. These teeth will lift sheaves or loose straws, or even hay, carry them over to a point where the teeth are released and the sheaves pitched into the base of a seven-foot elevator, which conveys them to a hayrack driven alongside.

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storms better, not being so rank, but developed more rust on the stem. The straw does not have the same bright yellow color as the Kotoa, but it might yield nearly as good as the Kotoa, but I don't expect the sample to be just as good.

"Granting the Kotoa had stood up as well as the Marquis, and both had filled out well, according to the two stands the Kotoa would have out-yielded the Marquis ten bushels or more to the acre.

"There is no doubt Kotoa is more rust-resisting than Marquis, but its rank growth might be against it on fresh strong land. Next year I intend to try it out on fall and spring plowing. The grade will be about No. 2 or 3 Northern, but the threshing machine only will tell the true tale."

Decided Disapproval

The strongest condemnation The Guide received of Kotoa was from Stuart Criddle, of Treesbank, Man. He says:

"I have only had this year's experience with Kotoa wheat, and then with only two acres, so that perhaps I am a little hasty in condemning it. Yet it was so disappointing that I cannot help doing so. It's yield was below Marquis by about seven bushels to the acre, and though it was not as badly rusted still the sample is not much better, this was due to its not standing the few hot dry days we had in July. What it would have been like if we had had a hot, dry summer I do not know, but feel sure it would have been too short and spindly to cut.

"I consider it unfit for a place on the farm as there are so many other kinds that are better suited to Manitoba than Kotoa: for instance, Ruby outyields it, is beardless, and is so early in ripening that it stands very little danger of rusting before the grain is sufficiently advanced to make a good sample. Then the flour from Ruby is first class, while I believe that from Kotoa produces a yellow loaf.

"Another thing against Kotoa is the feed value of its straw, which is hard and more woody and its long beards make it less palatable than the soft strawed varieties, so, on the whole, it only has one redeeming feature, that of not rusting as badly as Marquis.

"I strongly advise farmers not to go in for it until more is known about it and its value as a flour-producing grain."

Got 41 Bushels in Manitoba

In a letter to The Guide, E. Guy Hetherington, Souris, Man., makes a statement which is implied as an approval of Kotoa. Mr. Hetherington says:

"I purchased two bushels of seed of this wheat, which was sown on corn ground after the main crop of Marquis was seeded. For comparison I seeded the same quantity, about an acre and a quarter, with Marquis, which rusted quite badly, the resulting crop grading No. 3, and yielding about 12 bushels to the acre. The patch of Kotoa produced 41 bushels of excellent plump wheat, which would grade No. 1 Northern. The straw was weak, but did not lodge badly. I am of the opinion that sown on fall or spring plowing it would stand up quite well. There were no indications of rust on the same. I propose to seed the entire quantity grown this year next spring."

Got Good Sample

Mr. McKillican tells us that at the Brandon Experimental Farm, Kotoa is equally early with Marquis; it is lower yielding in normal seasons, but in 1923 beat the latter by three bushels per acre, and weighs 61 pounds per bushel as compared with the 51½ pounds per measured bushel which was the weight of this year's Marquis. He enumerates among the faults of Kotoa, that it shatters easily. "It gets well covered with leaf rust," says he, "so much so that it looks to the casual observer as rusty as the other varieties, but the deep pustules that puncture the stem and cut off the sap of the Marquis are not to be found on the Kotoa."

Consider Merits of Beards

The most complete testimony that is available from any professional source,

is what has been obtained from Prof. Weiner, cerealist at the Manitoba Agricultural college. In 1923, Kotoa out-yielded Marquis by ten bushels on the college farm, according to his testimony. In the three years that the two varieties have been compared, Marquis has only outyielded Kotoa in one year, 1922. Over the three years, the returns from Kotoa are 18 per cent. greater.

The bearded characteristic of Kotoa, which up to now has been deemed a drawback, comes in for praise from Prof. Weiner. "I know popular favor calls for beardless wheat," said he, "but I think in this matter we ought to stop and consider some important facts which have recently come to light. It is now an accepted truth that beardless wheat do not stand drought as well as bearded wheats. It has been definitely proven that the physiological effects of the awn prevents transpiration from the head of the plant."

Asked as to whether results in Minnesota and North Dakota showed Kotoa off to such advantage as at the Manitoba Agricultural College, Prof. Weiner answered in the negative. The best comparative results in favor of Kotoa have been obtained at Winnipeg. However, the agronomy department of the college is not recommending Kotoa for general distribution. Northern areas are advised to prefer Marquis.

Better than Durum

A few years ago there was a popular wave in favor of growing the durum wheats as a means of escaping rust damage. Prof. Weiner prefers Kotoa to this class of wheat in almost every respect. "In the first place," says he, "millers have given up using durum wheat for blending for the home or the British trade, and its market has considerably narrowed on that account. As long as the amount raised is no greater than at present this restricted outlet is not so serious, but a general adoption of durum would bring about a tremendous depreciation in price. Durum wheat is more susceptible to the other diseases of wheat, glume blotch, root rot, and ergot. We had a sample of durum sent to us last year from southern Manitoba that ran eight per cent. ergot.

"On the other hand Kotoa is a fair bread wheat. It has a good loaf volume. It is discounted because the bread made from it is yellow. This can be, and is being, overcome by bleaching in the States to the south where that process is allowed.

"In speaking of rust resistance we will never get to an intelligent understanding of this problem unless we recognize that there are 22 kinds of wheat rust, and that some varieties are immune to some of these forms and susceptible to others. Marquis is susceptible to 15 forms, including three of the worst. Kotoa is susceptible to a small number, but not to any of the peculiarly devastating sorts.

"The agronomy department of the college is not out to boost Kotoa, but we recognize in it a valuable ally in fighting what is now the worst problem of the wheat grower. We feel positive that it is only a matter of a few years when we shall have a rust-resistant wheat with all the advantages of Marquis. Kotoa may prove of great value in bridging over the time when this hope has been realized."

Grain Inspectors Non-committal

The farmer who ponders the consequences of growing this variety, naturally asks himself the question, "What will the grain graders at the terminals do with it?" To get an answer The Guide, obtained a good sample and forwarded to the chief inspector asking for an opinion, stating plainly that it was Kotoa. Evidently it was a situation that called for strategy instead of frankness, for the reply was "No established grade!"

Banking Reforms

Immediately after the last session of parliament, W. C. Good, Progressive M.P. for Brant County, Ontario, made a tour of Canada and the United States for the purpose of getting first hand information with regard to the condition of agriculture, and the place of banks and banking in economic life. His observations and deductions have been published in a series of articles in the press, the concluding article

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containing suggestions for immediate reforms in currency and banking. These suggestions are:

1. The evils of inflation and deflation, or of an unstable measure of value, are of the greatest magnitude. They are controllable. Therefore statesmen and all good citizens should not hesitate to attempt a remedy, even though this remedy may not be a perfect one.

2. Government supervision of banks has proven of great value in the U.S. It ought to be equally valuable in Canada, and more easily applied here than in the U.S. Recent disclosures have given renewed emphasis to its importance. Legislation in this direction should be undertaken immediately.

3. The local independent bank has unique advantages, particularly for such a country as Canada, and legislation should be enacted which will give such banks a fair chance for organization and survival.

4. To this end a central government bank for note issue and rediscounting should be created in Canada. This is also the logical conclusion of the War Finance Act, and may, in addition, serve to stabilize the price-level.

5. The ordinary commercial bank has not met, does not meet, and cannot very well meet, the financial needs of agriculture. Long-term rural credit has proven eminently satisfactory. Short-term credits have not yet been well tried out in America, but the evidence is in their favor. It is time we considered how the provincial efforts in these directions may be co-ordinated and helped by federal legislation.

6. The problem of wasteful competition between private banks can only be satisfactorily solved, in the last analysis, by a system of local co-operative community banks, federated into larger units and linked with a government central bank. Growth in this direction will be necessarily slow, but should be provided for by legislation. Prior recommendations (1) to (5) will help to realize this desirable development.

Finally I desire to call attention again to the dominating position held by finance in the modern world, a dominance that is fittingly symbolized over the whole American continent by the architecture and luxuriance of bank buildings. These temples of the money changers conspicuously surpass all other structures in their magnificence of marble, and brass, and mahogany, and are a silent but eloquent witness to the key position held by the financiers of today. Let us hope that they may in future be dedicated to the welfare of mankind and may, in fact, as well as in name, fittingly house and express one of the greatest of our public services.

The Manitoba Agricultural Societies Annual Convention is to be held January 15, 16 and 17, at the Manitoba Agricultural College. The Manitoba Soil Products Exhibition will also be held from the 15th to the 18th in the Breen Motor Co's show room, Main Street, Winnipeg.

Agriculture in the High School

DURING the past 12 to 15 years there has been a rather marked development of instruction in agriculture on a vocational basis in connection with high schools in the United States. There were about a half-dozen states in which provision had been made for state grants for this purpose prior to 1917. In that year there was passed what is known as the Federal Vocational Education Act. One of the features of this measure was provision for federal subventions to states establishing vocational education in agriculture. The legislation did not specify any type of school in which the work should be conducted, but in general the development has taken place in connection with the secondary schools. Today there is no state in the union in which provision has not been made for instruction in agriculture on a vocational basis in connection with the high schools.

Naturally there is more or less variation in the way in which the work has been developed in the several states. Usually the courses are from two to four years in length. The last is by far the most common length. The pupils admitted to this work must have attained the age of 14 years. Ordinarily they carry the work in agriculture in conjunction with such other high school subjects as English, social sciences, mathematics and the natural sciences. Boys enrolled in the work in vocational agriculture take the academic subjects in the same classes with the other pupils of the schools.

Practical Training

One of the first states to establish state aid for the purpose of encouraging instruction in vocational agriculture was Massachusetts. In that state as a part of the instruction each pupil was required to carry on a practical piece of farm work simultaneously with his school study. In fact much of the class-

By George A. Works

Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.

Editor's Note.—Dr. Works, the author of this article, is the chief of the Rural Education Department of Cornell University, and recognized as one of the foremost authorities on rural education on the continent. He was called into consultation by the Manitoba Education Commission last October.

room instruction revolved about this practical undertaking. This farm

courses of study in the several states, and also with the local conditions in a given state. The attempt is not to give a general course including all phases of agriculture, but rather to develop a course that is appropriate to the farming of the region in which a given school is located. In a dairy husbandry section, subjects that are commonly included besides dairy husbandry are: farm crops and soils; simple farm construction and repair; farm machinery; farm management; agricultural economics and perhaps some of the minor enterprises if they are of sufficient importance to justify their inclusion.

Four-year Study

These subjects are arranged in a schedule of courses usually extending over four years. The minimum length of school time devoted to the instruction in agriculture is ninety minutes daily. In many schools half of each day is given to the work. Usually two rooms in the school are used. One is devoted to farm shop and the other is a combined laboratory and recitation room. Besides the home project work there is a great deal of emphasis on field instruction. The effort is constantly made to keep it from becoming too "bookish" by keeping closely in touch with the farm

problems of the community by means of field trips, farm studies and surveys. As has been stated each pupil is required to select a home project that is appropriate to the subject of a given year. If the subject is farm crops and soils a crop's project is carried. The plan is to have the project constitute the core for the planning and study of each pupil. An illustration of a project carried to completion will perhaps give a better conception than much general discussion of its nature.

Boy's Excellent Work

"In 1920-21, Victor Fox was enrolled as a junior in the agricultural department of the Hopewell Township High



Agricultural Class at Newton, Ia., Studying Corn

Above: Class in Agriculture, Brookings, S.D., Making a Field Study of Potatoes

experience since it was usually conducted on the home farm was designated as the home project. Previous to the passage of the federal act this method was generally adopted in other states as instruction in vocational agriculture was developed. The federal legislation does not stipulate that the home project should be used as the means of furnishing farm experience. It does, however, require "six months of supervised practical work." The home project is the most commonly used means of providing this practical experience but it is not the only one by any means.

There is considerable variation in the



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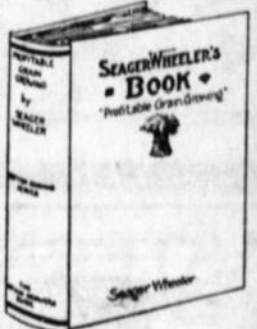
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to

VICTORIA

School, located at Shiloh, N.J. During the season following the school year, Victor grew two acres of very fine corn as his home project. The practice of the community in the great majority of cases is to sell all the corn grown except what is needed to winter the farm teams and enough to fatten two or three hogs for a supply of pork for the family. It so happened that in the fall of 1921, after Victor had harvested his crop, 50 cents per bushel was the highest offer he could get for his corn. The price was so low that nothing could be gained by selling at that time. Consequently, he asked the advice of his agricultural instructor, who advised him to purchase some pigs to which he could sell his corn. Victor was disappointed in this advice, for as he said, "there is no money in feeding hogs here, because my father has always told me so, and my grandfather also says so." However, after thinking it over for a while, Victor decided to do as he was advised and the following financial statement tells the remainder of the story. Needless to say that this was a valuable lesson educationally, not only to the boy, but to his father and the neighbors as well. Victor now continues to grow hogs as a profitable side line on his father's farm, and he knows how to grow them. He says "Not only do I receive a higher price for my corn, but I can market it easier, and in addition to that I keep the fertility at home on the farm."

Statement of Swine Project of Victor Fox

Expenses	
Cost of six pigs.....	\$36.00
Market price of corn, 94 bushels at 50 cents	47.00
Butter-milk	19.38
Tankage	4.25
Grinding corn	4.00
Truck hire	4.50
Labor	9.00
Total.....	\$124.13
Receipts	
Five fat hogs sold, 1,172 lbs. at 13 cents.....	\$152.36
One gilt kept for breeding.....	30.00
Manure, estimated value (amount offered by one farmer).....	30.00
Total.....	\$212.36
Net profit	\$ 88.23
Total expense not including value of corn and labor (\$124.13—\$56.00)	68.13
Total receipts not including value of manure (\$212.36—\$30)	182.36
Received for 94 bushels of corn..	114.23
Received for one bushel of corn	1.21

Value of manure to offset value of labor.

During the progress of the home project work the teacher of agriculture acts as a supervisor of the home work as well as of the school instruction. Teachers are employed on an eleven or twelve months basis and spend their summers in guiding the boys with their home projects.

In the last three or four years there has been a general awakening to the fact that a program of instruction in agriculture which is limited to regular high school pupils is not adequate. In many of the states various means are being used to develop "short courses" in connection with the high schools. Those courses range from two to twelve weeks in length and are given when work is slack on the farms. The purpose of these courses is to reach those boys from 16 to 21 years of age, who are not in attendance on high school.

Growth is Steady

The reports covering the development of the work under the provisions of the Federal Vocational Education Act indicate a striking but consistent growth. The following summary shows those facts:

Year	Number of schools	Number of teachers	Number of pupils
1918	609	995	15,453
1919	863	1,201	19,933
1920	1,375	1,570	31,301
1921	1,722	2,071	43,352
1922	2,175	2,290	60,236

The reader should not draw the inference that all the problems in this field of education are solved. That progress is being made is beyond doubt. There remains much to be done in extension of the instruction in agriculture to regions that are now not being reached, courses of study need strengthening, and there are many unsolved problems in the co-ordination of the work with other phases of school activity, but the situation improves from year to year. Those most familiar with the growth of vocational education in agriculture feel reasonably confident that there will be a large future development.

Cheese From Ewes' Milk

George Hobson, the secretary of the British Friesian Cattle Society, who has recently returned from Holland, has brought back to England, some interesting facts about the milk recording of sheep. At the farm of Mr. Kuperus he found a herd of sheep kept for cheese-making. The records of these animals show that they give up to 200 gallons with about 6 per cent. of butter-fat.

Winter Housing of Swine

In the prairie provinces considerable care in the housing of swine is usually necessary during the winter to prevent them from becoming stiff. This condition sometimes becomes so serious that the pig cannot stand and in such cases it is seldom possible to save the animal. Perhaps the least care is required when a small number of pigs are sleeping at a strawpile.

In guarding against the stiffening condition it is well to keep in mind the conditions found at the strawpile, namely: a dry comfortable bed afforded by an abundance of bedding, plenty of ventilation, a shelter from the wind, and a reasonable amount of exercise. If more than eight or ten pigs are together, they often pile up during cold weather and those underneath become too warm and damp with steam, then when coming out to feed, suffer from the cold.

A great deal of money has been lost in feeding pigs for market during the winter months, and the housing conditions are often responsible for the poor gains.

At the Dominion Experimental Station, at Scott, Sask., the well built piggery having a slatted ceiling and straw loft, has been compared for several years with the portable cabin for winter housing, and invariably there has been trouble from stiffening in case of those kept in the piggery, but seldom has there been any trouble among those sleeping in the cabin. Although the pigs in the cabin do not do so well as those in the piggery during the early part of the winter the difference is more than made up before spring and the lots in the cabins show better results during the total period.

The plan followed in case of the cabin is to bank it about half way to the top with straw and manure. The cabins used at present are 6½x8½ feet with three-foot walls. The floor is made of two-inch planks and there are 4x6-inch skids underneath. However, for winter use, the A shape cabin, having no floor, is reported by good authorities to be more satisfactory. The straw shed which is made by piling straw over a frame-work of woven wire or poles is perhaps the best of all as well as the cheapest. The straw should be replenished each year.

This is the method employed in housing the breeding stock at Scott. The sheds are usually located approximately a hundred yards from the feed trough in order that exercise will be provided by coming to and from the shed. It is well to have the shed large enough to feed inside during the very severe weather. During such times some exercise may be afforded by scattering some sheaf oats in the shed occasionally. One sheaf to five or six pigs is sufficient at one time.

Early spring pigs are often the more profitable, but when coming during February or March a heated place for farrowing is usually necessary for best results. At Scott a small stove is used in a room large enough for three farrowing pens and the stove. When the pigs are about two days old they can stand considerable cold weather and are moved to an outside shed or cabin to make room for other litters in the warm room.

On the average farm a granary could be used for a farrowing room. The temperature should be only high enough to take the chill from the air, otherwise, the change when moving outside may be too great. This plan has been followed for sometime at Scott station with good results.—E. Van Nice, Scott, Sask.

Discriminate Against Buck Lambs

Toronto packers are now cutting \$1.50 on all buck lambs which come to that market. S. E. Todd, who speaks for the packers, is reported as saying:

"The reason for making a cut in the price of buck lambs is to remedy a wrong principle. If the farmer who sells a buck lamb gets as much for it as the farmer who sells a ewe or wether lamb it is really a case of robbing Peter to pay Paul, because packers do not make as much money on buck lambs as on ewe or wether lambs. Farmers who take the trouble to castrate their lambs and produce an article that the market really wants, have a right

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to get a higher price than farmers who are careless and do not take the trouble to alter their lambs. No one really 'pockets' the \$1.50 cut. In the long run the man who will benefit by this cut will be the farmer who castrates his market lambs at the proper time. In the past the careless farmer has really been profiteering at the expense of the good, careful, sheep man, and it was to remedy this that it was decided to make a cut.

"Packers are trying to build up a good home and export trade for lamb. They are doing this, of course, primarily to benefit themselves, but it should be clear to anyone that producers will benefit also. If packers, by putting lamb of first-class quality on the market are able to increase the demand for Canadian lamb, this increase in demand is bound to react favorably on the price producers receive. The buck lamb has been the bane of the lamb trade. A buck lamb is necky, heavy in the shoulder, and usually without proper finish. He produces too much of the cheaper cuts and not enough of the more expensive and more desirable cuts of the meat. The meat when eaten has a strong masculine taste, and consumers don't want to eat it. If we can get rid of the buck, lamb consumption will increase in Canada, we will be able to compete on the export markets with the best of the lamb from other countries, and this is bound in the long run to bring financial rewards to all connected with the industry."

No such action has been taken on the Winnipeg market chiefly because the run of lambs has been so light this fall. But a representative of The Guide interviewed a prominent figure in the stock yards at St. Boniface, and the opinion was given that when the run in the West became heavy enough, such a course would inevitably follow. Incidentally, it may be remarked that feeder lambs have been at a great premium in Western Canada all fall. Looks as though the range men would have a favorable balance at the end of the year with green grass till harvest, and an unprecedented demand for the product.

Breeders' Views on Wintering Hogs

Picking R. A. Wright, of Drinkwater, Sask., as the one man who has had the most varied experience of any practical farmer of our acquaintance in wintering swine, The Guide asked for his views on the subject, which Mr. Wright generously gives below:

"In reply to your question relative to the housing of our Berkshires, I have gone through all phases of swine houses, starting with a straw shed. I worked myself into a position where we could have two litters a year with a heated house, and every convenience necessary, now I have reversed all this expense and work, and we are now on a sound basis, and producing hogs at a lower cost than ever before, and if I may say so, I believe a healthier, and better lot of Berkshires.

"We have our litters come in late April and May, they can then run with their dams on grass pasture, and at weaning time the alfalfa and rye-wheat pasture is ready for them, for we have found these two pastures supply the best and cheapest pasture, one is permanent in our rotation the other is seeded on a different plot each year. These young pigs are finished as rapidly as possible. What orders we have for pure-bred Berks are filled, the balance are sold as market hogs.

"After weaning, our sows are allowed to run on our summerfallow where a little rape has been sown, and no grain is fed them until November when we bring them in and flush them ready for breeding. All winter they are allowed to run in a large barn that is kept open; they are fed outside, and forced to take as much exercise as possible, water is kept before them at all times. I believe that in wintering in this fashion our brood sows are kept in better condition, respond with better and much healthier litters, than where the housing is close.

"There is no farm in Western Canada that cannot house swine in the manner described. The straw barn with which we first started to produce swine was similar, in ventilation, bedding and amount of exercise that the swine secured in the large open barn that we now have; one carries an overhead expense that the other does not, but we have the barn and are using it to the best advantage."

Alfalfa and Select Hogs

The Clarindale Stock Farms of Vauxhall, Alberta, won first in the bacon carcass contest at Calgary Fall Show, which adds weight to the answer given by Manager Hildenbrand, when The Guide asked for his method of swine feeding and management. Here are his own words:

"At the Clarindale Stock Farm, we have no milk for feeding hogs so have to rely on grains and pasture. Since the bacon hog has become the only hog that people are now interested in, our efforts have turned toward producing 'select bacon,' and in so doing have of course selected both boars and females that lean to the bacon type.

"As to feeding, the first thing we take care of is that both the sow and the young pigs have exercise every day. When it is too cold outside for the young pigs they have access to the feed alley where they enjoy themselves. As soon as the alfalfa starts to grow both mother and young ones are transferred to pasture. We really believe this is a big means of producing bacon—by having alfalfa pasture and plenty of exercise.

"The young pigs are able at all times to go through a creep and help themselves to a thin slop of soaked oat chop and shorts. We believe by feeding more oat chop than any other feed, until the pigs weigh around 140 to 160 pounds, that we build a frame on them rather than fat, and when they reach the above weights, barley chop is the greater feed until they are ready for market. Even when being fattened they have the run of a ten-acre field, their fat is then firmer than if they were penned up.

"We have found that we have to market the pigs at a later age than when we paid no attention to bacon, but we are getting far above the average of selects for Alberta. Alfalfa pasture in

summer and alfalfa hay in winter is a point it will pay not to forget."—A. Hildenbrand.

More Horse-Power Records

The invention of the Collins' dynamometer has given horse pulling contests great vogue. At a recent contest held in New York City, the champion Sheffield farms' team, "Pete" and "Bob," weighing 3,575 pounds, moved a load equal to the exertion required to start a 16-ton load on a level granite block pavement. They maintained this tremendous pull for six consecutive seconds. This pull is 50 pounds greater than the best pull at the Iowa State Fair.

In the class for 3,000-pound teams, "Barry" and "Buddy," owned by the Horton Ice Cream Co., hefted a load that was equivalent to starting a 13-ton load under the same circumstances as the above pull was calculated.

Livestock Parasites

Treating the subject of cattle lice in the new Bulletin No. 29, of the Department of Agriculture, at Ottawa, Insects Affecting Livestock, Dr. S. Hadwen, names three species of lice that commonly attack cattle. These are the short-nosed louse, the long-nosed louse and the biting louse. They are all troublesome, but do most damage to poorly-fed or ill-nourished stock. They multiply most rapidly in dry, cold weather. Though the lice seem to disappear in summer and cause no appreciable effects, a small number continue to survive. These, if left alone, increase rapidly, and cause discomfort and loss of flesh and milk production, more particularly towards the approach of spring.

Dr. Hadwen recommends treating infected cattle before they are housed for the winter. Kerosene emulsion is named as a satisfactory preparation. Raw linseed oil, if rubbed on the affected parts, is also claimed to produce beneficial results. In cold weather, when it is not safe either to wet the skin or take the hair off, pyrethrum powder is a useful remedy. It is dusted over the skin and a blanket strapped on. The use of proprietary dips and other treatments are recommended in this bulletin, which dealt with all manner of external and internal parasites of horses, cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry. The above bulletin is obtainable free of charge from the Director of Publicity, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

A Tip to Turkey Raisers

Do you number among your neighbors some who had to get out the saddle pony to bring in the turkeys before shipping, and then received a grading statement classifying all the birds as No. 2, on account of lack of finish? If so they would thank you for the little secret that this Guide subscriber discloses. Taming a turkey, as it is often done, requires a wild animal trainer. This method will help to overcome some troubles that don't tend to put fat on the birds.

"The way to prepare and fatten turkeys for market is so very simple that the children will delight in helping and be very useful. You begin training the turkeys as soon as they are hatched, and in three days they will have learned their lesson. As soon as you have the young turkeys penned with their mother, whether turkey or hen, and are settled comfortably, invent a little call. Anything will do, such as 'home again,' or I use 'come along,' and at each feeding repeat the same call several times through the first days.

"They soon learn to come when the call is given, and if never disappointed they will never forget. I continue the same call through the summer for pot scrapings, or a little sour milk, and then later in the fall when I really want them to put on flesh, I can call them in half a dozen times a day off the fields and feed them and they just fatten beautifully, without knowing they are confined, as confinement is such a great objection that they will starve as a rule instead of fatten, but they, knowing there is always something attached to 'come along,' will not be disappointed and neither will you."—Jessica Marten.

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Eat-More-Bread Campaign

Some time ago a committee of bankers and flour mill operators commenced a tour of the northwestern states in the interests of a campaign to increase the consumption of wheat products. They were not well received by some of the spokesmen for the farmers with whom they came in contact, for the latter held that such a campaign could not accomplish much, that its results would at best be temporary, and that it would divert attention from co-operative marketing, at that time the live issue—for just then the Northwestern Wheat Growers' were making a drive for contracts.

However, from the following from Washington, D.C., it would appear that there is room for some good work along the proposed line:

"Bread-saving habits formed in war time and needlessly continued now are limiting the consumption of wheat in this country to the disadvantage of both producer and consumer, say officials of the United States Department of Agriculture. They assert that a return to pre-war food habits in the use of wheat by the public, and the feeding

of low-grade wheat to livestock, would greatly help to solve the wheat problem.

"Use of wheat flour and bread in the United States, it is pointed out, was much reduced in war time by high prices and by the appeal for wheat saving. The custom of serving bread free with 'a la carte' orders in restaurants, hotels, and railway dining cars was abandoned, and has not since been generally revived. Bread is not consumed liberally at the prices commonly charged. In cafeterias, for example, the rate is usually two slices, with butter, for a nickel. This means that the cafeteria patron pays from 25 to 30 cents for a pound loaf of bread. In the higher-priced hotels and restaurants and in dining cars, the charge for an order of bread may be as high as 20 cents. At such a rate, the disparity between the price of bread, and the cost of the wheat in it, is enormous.

"It is pointed out, too, that the price of bread in cities has not fallen with the price of wheat and flour. Thus a pound loaf of bread which in Minneapolis in 1913-1914 cost 5.3 cents now costs approximately nine cents, while the flour from which it is made cost

\$4.43 a barrel in 1913-1914 and now costs \$6.89. Allowing 280 loaves of bread to the barrel, the margin between the price of the flour and the price of the bread produced from it has increased from \$10.40 to \$18.30.

"Why should there be such an increase in bread cost? It is recognized that the price of flour is not the only element in the cost of bread. Costs of other ingredients, and of labor and distribution, have likewise to be taken into account. Nevertheless, the wide disparity between the cost of bread to the consumer and the price received by the producer for the wheat from which the bread is made, is cited as a typical illustration of the disproportionate relationship which exists between the price of farm products and the price of things that have gone through a manufacturing process.

"It is obvious that such conditions, however caused, work to the disadvantage of both producers and consumers, say department officials. Producers are injured by the restriction which is caused in the demand for their products, and consumers are injured by high prices which enforce an unecono-

mic limitation in the use of an essential food. All interests in the country, including those of bakers and millers, would be benefited, it is held, by the restoration of a more normal ratio between the price of wheat when it leaves the farmers' hands, and its price to the final consumer."

Growing Fruit in Saskatchewan

I am asked what success I have had, and what I have learned from my experience in growing fruit in Saskatchewan. In answer to the first—very, very satisfactory indeed. As to the second query—to grow the real high class strawberries, the great big luscious fellows, in the farm garden, the land should be thoroughly enriched early in the fall previous to planting, either by digging or plowing in plenty of good hen and horse manure, unheated and not washed out. Can't work in too much. The following spring as soon as the soil is dry enough to be in good condition to work, have the plants delivered from as close at hand as is possible to procure them. If "ever-bearers" are wanted then "Progressives" are the best variety. If July bearers, "Senator Dunlop" is to be preferred.

Details Count

In either case, as soon as the plants are received, open up the bundle in a shady place out of the wind, sprinkle them with water and throw a wet sack over them. Then take a shallow dish—a granite wash basin is quite suitable, put in two or three handfuls of black soil, then pour in about three inches of water and stir well. Place about a dozen plants around the side of the dish with roots in the mixture.

Now proceed to plant, eighteen inches apart in a row and rows two to three feet apart. Keep hoed and clean from weeds and pick first blossoms off ever-bearers and all the flowers from the Senator Dunlop the first summer. In planting, open ground with a trowel or spade, catch plant between thumb and fingers so as to spread the roots out fanwise. Place in opening so that the crown of plant is barely above ground when packed down. It is best to keep most of runners clipped off.

A short time before the ground begins to freeze, give a good coat of manure between rows and close up around plant. Towards spring, when the snow begins to go, place two feet of straw over the bed and leave it there until frost is out of the ground. This causes the snow to melt slowly, giving the resulting water an opportunity to sink into the ground; also prevents early frosts from injuring the fruit buds. After frost is out rake straw in between rows to shade ground and preserve moisture.

Strawberries require an abundance of water. Many people exclaim, "Oh, but that's a lot of labor to grow strawberries!" The reply is that quite nice berries can be grown with some less trouble but not the best berries, nor yet the surest crop, and very much heavier labor is put into growing a crop of potatoes without receiving such profitable returns.

Bush Fruits

Raspberries have proven a very profitable crop, with little trouble, and if a selection of some early and some later varieties are planted, the raspberry season can be lengthened materially. Canes should be planted three feet apart and the rows wide enough to allow a team and stoneboat to pass through. In some locations the canes have to be bent down and covered. I use horse and cow manure to cover the canes as soon as convenient after first hard frost.

In spring, after the ground is thawed, uncover, thin out new canes to four or five of best to each clump. Cut back to about 28 inches. Break out all old canes, give shallow cultivation to destroy weeds and suckers. Throw manure back around canes as cultivated. Last year, after six years bearing, my canes bore a record crop. I have a patch of wild raspberry bushes planted in garden and keep manure enough amongst them to prevent growth of weeds and they are doing fine.

Currant bushes take care of the selves, further than throwing a good coat of manure around them in the



"Browndale Hero", Champion Shorthorn Bull at the Canadian National Exhibition, 1923.

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Larger Fruits

I have not had much experience with tree fruits. I have three crab apple seedlings that refuse to die, five years old. One has been picked to the ground for three successive winters by rabbits, but it has shot up this year nearly three feet. The trunks and limbs are greased from the ground up with a mixture of axle grease and kerosene for this winter's protection. Another seedling, planted in 1913, bore a very heavy crop of small yellow apples last season, from which a very delicious jelly was produced.

A friend in the district who planted cherries, plums and Siberian crabs, has

been very successful. His trees are looking fine and for the three past years the crab trees have turned off a very bountiful crop of fine fruit. There is no earthly reason why every farmer in this part of Saskatchewan should not grow all the hardier varieties of fruit he requires, with a large percentage of profit financially, besides having in many cases a superior quality of fruit. Then consider the improvement in the appearance of the farm home. With further reference to labor on manure. That manure has to be hauled out anyway, so why not haul it where wild oats, sow thistle and their esteemed relatives can be jumped on and annihilated with little trouble and no expense but profit.—Thos. H. Benwell, Orcadia, Sask.

Free Trade Principles

THE following article, stating the case moderately and scientifically for Free Trade, is from the pen of John Maynard Keynes, editor of The Nation and Athenaeum, London, and also editor of The Economic Journal, official publication of The Royal Economic Society. During the war Mr. Keynes was in charge of British financial relations with the allied powers, and was the chief representative of the British treasury at the Peace Conference, and a member of the Supreme Economic Council of the Allied and Associated Powers. He has an international reputation as a writer on economic subjects, and his two books, The Economic Consequences of the Peace and A Revision of the Treaty, have had a tremendous influence upon public opinion with regard to after-the-war policies in Europe. The article appeared in the London Nation, and the only parts omitted are those referring specifically to the application of the principles laid down to the British situation:

"Free Trade is based on two fundamental truths which, stated with their due qualifications, no one can dispute who is capable of understanding the meaning of the words:

"I. It is better to employ our capital and our labor in trades where we are relatively more efficient than other people are, and to exchange the products of these trades for goods in the production of which we are relatively less efficient.

"Every sane man pursues this principle in his private life. He concentrates his energies on those employments where his efficiency is greatest in comparison with other people's; and leaves to others what they can do better than he can.

"There are four, and only four, recognized types of exception to this principle, which apply equally to nations and to individuals:

"1. If, for non-economic reasons, a particular trade, or the conditions in which it is carried on, are degrading or unpleasant, or if, on the other hand, they are peculiarly desirable, we may recognize such facts by prohibitions and by encouragements. Such cases are certainly not to be found amongst manufactured imports or exports as a class. Many believe, however, that the encouragement of agriculture comes under this head.

"2. If a particular article or service is of such a kind that it is not safe for nations or individuals to leave themselves entirely dependent on the services of outsiders, this is a reason for insisting that we should retain at least the capacity for providing it at home. This is the case of 'key industries.' . . . The main objection to such legislation is that, under cover of it, Protectionists are apt to slip in articles which do not really satisfy the conditions.

"3. Where relative inefficiency is due to a remediable lack of practice or of education on the part of our own industries, it may be worth while to spend something on gaining the necessary experience. This is the case of 'infant industries.' Here again the objection is that Protectionists are apt to father on it elderly or unpromising 'infants.' . . .

"4. Where, for special reasons, the cheapness of the imported goods does

not look like being permanent, yet may bankrupt and destroy our own organization so long as it lasts, temporary measures may be justified. This is the case of 'dumping' and of imports from countries of depreciating currency. Generally speaking, the occasions for action under this head are not so common as may appear at first. We have to weigh the direct benefit of getting the goods cheap against the indirect injury done to our organization. . . .

"II. The second great principle is that there can be no disadvantage in receiving useful objects from abroad. If we have to pay at once, we can only pay with the export of goods and services, and the exchange would not take place (subject to the necessary exceptions just stated) unless there was an advantage in it. Every export, which is not paid for by an import, represents a decrease in the capital available within the country.

"Thus an artificial interference with imports must either interfere with exports or involve an artificial stimulation to capital to leave the country. Now, if we are to interfere at all with the natural course of trade, surely it should be with the object of keeping capital at home, not of driving it abroad. . . .

"Our imports are our income. To put obstacles in their way is to be as crazy as a business man would be who tried to prevent his customers and his debtors from paying their bills.

"Neither of these principles is in the least affected by whether or not foreign countries impose tariffs.

"There is a third argument for Free Trade, but one far less absolute and more relative to changing circumstances than the first two—namely, the principle of laissez-faire. This is never a final argument. The old view, that the self-interest of individuals, operating without interference, will always produce the best results, is not true. As knowledge increases and the arts of government improve, the public good requires many checks on the unregulated acts of individual traders. Nevertheless, in a case like this, where lobbying, expense, waste of time, and friction of all kinds will endlessly ensue, we require, to justify the change, not the momentary caprice of a minister who is short of material for a speech at a party gathering, but solid and certain advantages to the State, carefully thought out and clearly explained. . . .

"There are three principal objects, other than the prevention of imports, for which import duties have been proposed at various times:

"1. The favoring of imports from some sources of supply rather than others, namely Preference.

"2. The annoyance of foreign countries, in the hope that they will offer you some concession to abate the nuisance, namely, Retaliation."

"3. The exploitation of a position of monopoly or partial monopoly, in order, by restricting the volume of trade, to get a more favorable ratio of exchange, namely, Making the Foreigner Pay.

"In each of these cases it is a question of where the balance of advantage lies. There is nothing whatever new about them. They have been argued out, up and down the country, hundreds of times. I need only point out that the last of them is peculiarly inapplicable to our present circumstances. The imposition of an import or export duty with this object in view is equivalent to a combination of producers to extract from their customers a price higher than the competitive price. Such action is very imprudent unless those who take it feel confident as to the strength of their monopoly position, and as to the inability of their customers to go elsewhere. It is not aimed at expanding the volume of trade; but the contrary. It is an attempt to get better terms from foreigners by contracting the volume of trade. Such an attempt would be exceptionally ill-advised at a time when we are already losing trade by charging too high.

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"The complication of the Free Trade issue has generally arisen in the past from the fact that, whilst Protectionists have really wanted Protection for its own fallacious sake, they have generally advanced under a thick smoke-screen of the exceptional cases—Agriculture and Race-Virility, Key Industries, Infant Industries, Dumping, Preference, Retaliation, and Making the Foreigner Pay. It is always more difficult to prove in a few words that certain possible advantages are unlikely or infrequent, than to meet the straight case—where there is and can be no advantage at all. . . .

"If there is one thing that Protection can not do, it is to cure Unemployment. It is the central idea of Protection to contract trade—for the advancement of various ulterior objects which may or may not be wise. The characteristic of Protection—admitted, I should have thought, by friend and foe alike—is that it is an attempt to trade on better terms or on nationally more advantageous lines at the expense of doing less business. The Free Trader has always been the expan-

sionist—the man who is accused of exchanging with the foreigner too cheap or sacrificing the character of the business merely for the sake of carrying on a large trade. . . .

"There are some arguments for Protection, based upon its securing possible but improbable advantages, to which there is no simple answer. But the claim to cure Unemployment involves the Protectionist fallacy in its grossest and crudest form.

"Protection must mean—to this there is no exception—an attempt to limit the volume of trade; it must mean charging the foreigner more (more, measured in terms of goods demanded against goods supplied) at the expense of doing less trade with him. And in so far as the keeping out of an import does not involve a corresponding restriction of export, it must drive some capital out of the country."

New Book on Canada

A mass of interesting information on Canada, her natural resources, industrial and agricultural development, transportation and commerce, is compiled in a small compact volume issued by the Natural Resources Intelligence Service, Department of the Interior. The book is well illustrated and contains two maps—one showing the main economic units into which the country is naturally divided, the other indicating natural resources, industrial areas and transportation routes. The book enables one to get a good idea of the agricultural, industrial and commercial facilities of Canada. Copies may be obtained free of charge on application to the Superintendent, Natural Resources Intelligence Service, Department of the Interior, Ottawa.

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A Remarkable Home Treatment Given by One Who Had It.

In the year of 1893 I was attacked by Muscular and Sub-acute Rheumatism. I suffered as only those who are thus afflicted know, for over three years. I tried remedy after remedy, but such relief as I obtained was only temporary. Finally, I found a treatment that cured me completely, and such a pitiful condition has never returned. I have given it to a number who were terribly afflicted, even bedridden, some of them seventy to eighty years old, and the results were the same as in my own case.

I want every sufferer from any form of muscular and sub-acute (swelling at the joints) rheumatism, to try the great value of my improved "Home Treatment" for its remarkable healing power. Don't send a cent; simply mail your name and address and I will send it free to try. After you have used it and it has proven itself to be that long-looked-for means of getting rid of such forms of rheumatism, you may send the price of it, one dollar, but understand, I do not want your money unless you are perfectly satisfied to send it. Isn't that fair? Why suffer any longer when relief is thus offered you free? Don't delay. Write today.

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Mr. Jackson is responsible. Above statement true.

To Make Money in 1924

It Is Time to Lay Plans NOW

More farmers will start out on some new side line in 1924 than ever before. It may be corn, sunflowers, sweet clover, dairying, poultry, bee-keeping, fruit growing or any one of a dozen other new features in our agriculture. If the average beginner could have an opportunity to talk with a score or so of other farmers and their wives who had made a success in one or more of these lines, it would help him wonderfully in making his new enterprise a success. Scores of stories of actual experiences will be published in The Guide within the next few months. They will contain information which will be worth many thousands of dollars in the farm income of Guide subscribers during 1924. The stories published on this page show what Guide articles have meant to the subscribers who wrote them this last year.

How to Build Silos

"The biggest help that I have so far received from The Guide was in the 'Silo Number,' March 15, 1922, particularly the articles on Pit Silos and Silage Crops," says a progressive Manitoba farmer. "After reading this copy I decided to try my hand at a small pit silo. I planted five acres North-West Dent Corn, and had a good crop from it, so I dug a pit silo eight feet deep by 14 feet in diameter, following the directions given in the above mentioned copy and I was pleased enough with my experiment to decide to erect a semi-pit silo this year. I am also trying sweet clover this year for the first time, so I sent for Guide bulletins No's. 23, 24, 25, 26. These are all reprints from 1921 copies, but I had not saved any of that year's copies. These four bulletins cover every step of sweet clover crops so I expect to have no trouble."

Helped Him Make Money

"It took me about three seasons to convince myself that our old methods were a failure, and by that time I was pretty well discouraged. Just then The Guide told us if we cared to raise stock we could grow sunflowers for silage and sweet clover for hay, and as my neighbor remarked, 'they will grow in spite of Providence.' We were also told that by using a trench silo, an inexpensive harvesting apparatus and an old cutting box already on hand we could produce silage without much outlay, and have the advantage of a greatly increased tonnage of feed per acre."

"I tried sunflowers and sweet clover last year for the first time. The results with sunflowers were even surprising, with sweet clover entirely satisfactory, and I might say the cows milked better and the fat cattle this spring are in better shape than ever before. Also I expect better wheat returns after clover or corn when corn is used for silage."

"Incidentally I managed to tan a few hides by methods given in your paper. We use a lot of leather and can now produce it very cheaply."—From a Saskatchewan Farmer.

Labor Saving Devices

"I am not a mechanical genius myself," writes Mrs. Wilson, "and I find it hard to explain to my husband what I want, but when I can show him the descriptions and drawing of labor-saving devices in The Guide, he is generally willing to have a try at them, and we have a number of conveniences as a result. We have a dumb-waiter, fireless cooker, bread raiser, ice house, revolving flour barrel, kitchen cabinet, and a number of other smaller articles as a direct result of help from The Guide. I always scan its pages eagerly to see if there is anything new in our line."

Culling the Flock

"Every issue of The Guide is a mine of practical information for its readers; to me the outstanding article, the one that has helped most is Culling Poultry for Egg Production. Last spring I had 30 pullets which, with my flock of 37 old birds, gave me 67. I meant to keep from 40 to 50 over the winter. How to pick out the non-layers—that was the question. Your paper arrived containing the article, Culling for Egg Production. I read it and re-read it a dozen times. In the following days I killed 15 hens, only four contained eggs, not a bad beginning for one who never missed the layers before. Since November, I have had from six to 20 eggs a

day. Not anything to get excited about, but what did it mean? It meant—we (two in the family mostly) had all the eggs we wished for all winter, besides having some to sell."—Alberta Farm Woman.

New Use for Corn

"The article from which I benefited most in a practical way was one on feeding corn in the sheaf, in your Silo Number published in 1921. Before reading the article I had thought a silo was necessary to keep the corn for winter feeding. I planted about one-third of an acre to corn last spring and took off one load of sheaves over which my cows were even more enthusiastic than I had been on reading about it. They never complained of its being slightly frozen, and when the sow broke out of her pen she made a determined effort to camp in the corn shocks. Corn is easily grown, easily fed, and so well liked by the stock that no farmer need be without it because he cannot get a silage cutter, which was my reason for not trying it earlier. If I had not seen the article mentioned, I should have left corn alone as we could not get power here to cut feed for the silo; we consider ourselves lucky to get our grain threshed before the snow comes."—Saskatchewan Farmer.

How to Use The Guide

"The article that attracted my special attention appeared in the issue of August 9, 1922, on Home Canning Experiences," says a Saskatchewan Woman. "We always raise a large garden and each year—a part is wasted or left in the garden. I decided after reading the experiences of other women to save as much as I could of these health-giving products for use in winter and the early spring. I find we eat with a greater relish foods which have been canned, such as corn, peas, beans, young beet tops, spinach and rhubarb, than we do the same fruit or vegetables when taken from the garden in the summer when the green stuff is ready."

"A Peck of Pickles, in The Guide, of September 13, I found to be just suited to my requirements, as I had such a lot of cucumbers which I made into Dills, sweet and mixed pickles. I also made Sour Kraut. I did not wish to make a large amount as most people do, so was glad the proportions were given for a small quantity."

"At present I am putting down the surplus supply of meat after instructions given in the March issue so there will be no waste and at the same time enjoy in the summer what might have otherwise been wasted."

"The next article which I made good use of was The Sleuth in the Henhouse, September 20. I was inexperienced in the culling of fowls. I knew my hens were not laying as many eggs as they should, so I promptly made use of the method used by A. C. McCulloch. I keep bred-to-lay Barred Rocks, so any which did not come up to the standard in measurement, appearance and general conformation, I discarded."

"My flock of course was cut down a lot, but I noticed an improvement in the appearance of the birds and a wonderful increase in the egg production. As yet I have not installed trap nests but I intend to do so."

"The article on Yarn and Silk Flowers, both knitted and crochet found in The Guide, of November 8, was a great help to me. I made many pretty lapel bouquets for Christmas, which were greatly admired. I also wore some up on my own fur cap as did my three daughters."

Leading Bankers Review Important Developments

An opportunity of obtaining a thorough knowledge of present conditions, as well as to gauge the outlook for the next year in Canada was afforded at the annual meeting of the Bank of Montreal.

Sir Vincent Meredith, Bart., the president, and Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, the general manager, in their addresses to the shareholders of the bank referred in most interesting manner to the important developments that had occurred during the past year, and the way in which the country had been able to meet them. Sir Vincent dealt more particularly with the outstanding features of the country itself, touching on such important questions as business in Canada, agricultural conditions, immigration, the burden of taxation, and reviewing the situation both in Great Britain and the United States.

Sir Frederick also expressed the opinion that Canada cannot progress as she should until the cost of living in this country and taxation are less than across the line in the United States. The remedy, however, he pointed out, is in our hands and is practicable.

Burden of Taxation

Sir Vincent Meredith, Bart., president, in his address to shareholders, said, in part:

"I make no apology for stressing again the desirability, one might even say the imperativeness, of moderating public taxation, federal, provincial and municipal, in order to lighten the load pressing upon business and deterring development of resources. The margin of profit in all business is seriously curtailed by the accumulation of taxation, a condition that retards enterprise and discourages thrift. In making this remark, I am not unmindful of some recent signs of improvement. The rising revenue of the Dominion government promises a balanced budget at the close of the fiscal year, and if out of this, with further reduction in expenditure, comes some remission of direct taxation upon trade, it will undoubtedly operate to the general advantage."

Priceless Advantages

Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, general manager, in his review of the affairs of the bank during the year, said, in part:

"Canada's economic position will not be satisfactory until we succeed in balancing our public revenue and expenditure, including railways."

"Meanwhile we must not lower our flag, nor is there any occasion for doing so. Canada has priceless advantages as a place to live in, to work in and to play in. These should be obvious to all—as, indeed, they are to our friends in the United States, who now have \$850,000,000 or more commercially invested in Canada—and they will without question attract to us in the fullness of time the people we need."

"Prosperity in full measure cannot, however, return to the country until agriculture, our chief industry, becomes again more profitable. Agriculture cannot be permanently depressed. In the nature of things an improvement is bound to ensue, but the burden in the meantime bears heavily upon this vital industry. For your information, of this bank's current loans in Canada, upwards of \$33,000,000 are to the agricultural community."—Advertisement.

Western Canada Law

A compact, complete manual of the laws of Western Canada, covering all the points a farmer needs to know. A book anyone can read, understand and profit by. A digest of thousands of pages of statutes, both federal and provincial, condensed into 600 pages of large, clear, readable type, well and strongly bound.

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This book we are offering is the third edition published in 1921. First sold at \$3.50, later at \$3.00, and now reduced to \$2.50, postage prepaid.

THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE
WINNIPEG, MAN.

Organization News

Matter for this page should be sent to H. Higginbotham, secretary, United Farmers of Alberta, Calgary; A. J. McPhail, secretary, Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, Regina; Donald G. McKenzie, secretary, United Farmers of Manitoba, Winnipeg.

Saskatchewan

Oppose Express Rates Increase

The application of the express companies to the Board of Railway Commissioners for permission to increase express rates has aroused a very large volume of opposition from farmers, and also from boards of trade and other bodies. Among the organizations taking up this matter vigorously was the S.G.G.A. and the Canadian Council of Agriculture, the S.G.G.A. acting for Saskatchewan and the C.C.A. for all the provinces.

A letter was sent out by Mr. McPhail, Central secretary of the association, to representative men in various parts of the province for information which would be of value in presenting the farmers' case against the proposed increase, and this information was placed before the commissioners by Mr. McPhail, at the sitting in Regina, on Saturday, December 8.

Among the matters presented by Mr. McPhail as a protest against the increase was the following resolution passed by the Craven G.G.A., viz.: "That we, the Craven local, hereby protest against any increase in express rates at the present time, and hope that our Central executive will do all in their power to oppose any increase."

Order of Convention Business

For several years past complaints have been made on account of important questions coming up for consideration at a late period of the annual convention, causing business to be rushed through often with scant consideration. The Cut Knife convention, held on November 28, was of the opinion that this should be avoided, and the delegates passed a resolution on the matter in the following terms, viz.: "Resolved that this convention ask the Central executive to plan the program of the general convention so that the business of the association will be transacted during the early part of the convention."

It should be pointed out that it is not always possible to have such an arrangement strictly carried out, as very often the convention itself decides to alter the order of proceedings in order to discuss other matters of importance. At the same time, we have no doubt whatever that the executive will do what is possible to facilitate an arrangement in accordance with the terms of the resolution.

To End Governmental Privilege

Believing that governments are in a much better position to stand losses from bank failures than are the individual depositors, the members of the Shallow Lake G.G.A. do not wish to see either the provincial or the federal governments any longer occupy a privileged position as creditors of the chartered banks. Moreover, they believe that any legislation that may be passed in order to end the present position should be retroactive, in which case it would apply to the losses through the failure of the Home Bank.

The following resolution on the subject was adopted at the meeting of the local held on Wednesday, November 21, viz.:

"Whereas, the Home Bank catastrophe has caused trouble and inconvenience to creditors and debtors alike, in that many depositors cannot at the present time do without the ready money they had in the bank, much less can they stand the possible loss;

"And, whereas, creditors who are called upon to pay their debts immediately are unable to settle such debts at once;

"And, whereas, federal and provincial governments have a preference over other depositors in a bank;

"Therefore be it resolved, that legislation be enacted to the effect that the preference now enjoyed by federal and provincial governments in regard to bank deposits be done away with, and

that such legislation be retroactive to January 1, 1923."

Notes

The Reford G.G.A. want a change in the membership year of the association, and have passed the following resolution expressing their views, viz.: "That the membership year be changed, and to be from October 1 to September 30, the following year." This resolution will be placed before the annual convention for consideration in the usual course.

Aneroid Co-operative Association has just established a record in shipping out considerably over 2,000 turkeys for the present season. It is, says Everett Baker, the president, "the biggest feat of our co-operative association thus far." Co-operation never fails to secure the desired results when gone after in the right fashion.

Alberta

Plan Membership Drive

At the second annual convention of the Craigmyle U.F.A. District Association, held in Hanna, on November 29, Mr. Bilwiller was re-elected president by acclamation, and James Meehan and Mrs. E. J. Sutherland were elected vice-presidents. The financial report showed a small surplus on hand, to be carried into the next year.

H. W. Wood spoke to the convention on the progress made by the wheat pool, and the many obstacles which had been met with. Mr. Wood discussed also the difference in price levels of the products of agriculture and of manufacture. R. O. German, director for Red Deer, and formerly a resident of the Hanna district, spoke on the formation of wheat pool locals; G. A. Forster, M.L.A., for Hand Hills, gave a resume of the many activities of the legislature; Wm. Irvine, M.P., for East Calgary, discussed the financial question, illustrating by charts his contention that the present system was a debt-building instead of a debt-paying system. E. J. Garland, M.P., the last speaker, gave a report of the last session of the federal house, ending with a special appeal to the farmers to stand by their organization, and to support the efforts of their representatives in parliament.

A membership drive, with the objective of bringing the U.F.A. up to its former strength, was unanimously decided upon. Arrangements were made for every farm home in the district to be visited by a U.F.A. canvasser during the coming month, and an appeal issued to farmers to be prepared to pay their dues in the organization that is fighting for them. Other resolutions endorsed the management of the wheat pool; asked for the issue of special half-yearly rural automobile licenses. A vote of thanks was accorded to the speakers.

Red Deer Convention

At the annual convention of the Red Deer U.F.A. Federal Constituency Association, held in Stettler, on November 22 and 23, Mrs. Leona R. Barritt was re-elected president. The new vice-presidents are H. Wallace, Red Deer, and Ira Taylor, Big Valley; the new members of the board of directors are Mr. Patterson for Red Deer, and Mr. Wilson, for Federal.

Addresses were given by the president, dealing with the matter of the "closed door" in politics, rural education, international relationships, and the necessity of preparing for leadership by a thorough study of economics, history and sociology; by Geo. Bevington, on credit and banking; and by Alfred Speakman, M.P., on the business of the last parliamentary session.

The policy of the Red Deer association was outlined in the following resolution:

"Whereas, the serious agricultural depression in Western Canada has alarmingly affected the prosperity of

the agriculturist, and with him that of all other classes;

"Therefore, we, the elected delegates of the Red Deer Federal Constituency, approve most heartily of the efforts put forth by our representatives in the House of Commons, to lighten the burdens upon agriculture generally, and in particular to secure by a system of rural credit and a more equitable fiscal policy, some relief from the crushing burden of indebtedness, brought about by the deflation in the values of farm products; and we strongly urge our member to give his most earnest thought and support to all such reforms as tend to restore the prosperity of agriculture and hence the prosperity of the nation."

Another resolution urged the organization of locals by members of the Alberta Wheat Producers Limited.

Cochrane Convention

At the annual meeting of the Cochrane U.F.A. Constituency Association, H. E. G. H. Scholefield was re-elected president; E. K. Reid, Cremona, vice-president; and Mrs. A. Borton, Dog Pound; L. V. Nichol, Jumping Pond, and P. L. Carpenter, Aldrie, directors.

Resolutions were passed asking that the credit enquiry be continued at the next session of the federal parliament; that the mineral rights tax be amended to exclude from its operation all individual owners of both surface and mineral rights who are using the land solely for farming or grazing purposes, unless it has been proved by test that the land contains minerals; and that the provincial government be asked to enact such legislation as will limit the rate charged by the Hail Insurance Board to 10 per cent. in any one year.

Notes

By combining to ship a car load of poultry to the Egg and Poultry Marketing Service, Edgerton Co-operative Association and Wainwright U.F.A. local saved on freight alone one and one-half cents per pound, or over \$100 on the whole shipment.

Though only organized in April last, the Woodville local has done a good deal to encourage co-operative marketing in the district. All the members are shipping their stock through the local organizations this fall, and some non-members have also been induced to do so, according to a letter from the president of the local, H. N. Stearns. A fowl supper was held recently, on which occasion a number of new members joined the local.

Manitoba

U.F.M. Annual Convention

Final arrangements have been made for holding the twentieth annual convention of the U.F.M. and U.F.W.M., in St. Stephen's Church, Winnipeg, on January 8, 9 and 10, 1924. Credential forms will be sent to all local secretaries in the course of the next few days. This will be, perhaps, the most important convention the U.F.M. has ever held. Matters of vital importance to the farmers of Manitoba will be discussed, including the formation of a wheat pool for Manitoba; co-operative marketing of all forms of farm produce; consideration of the declaration of principles as submitted by the Canadian Council of Agriculture and numerous other matters; full reports submitted dealing with the work of the association and suggesting something of the tasks ahead, plans for stimulating interest in the movement, and the securing of the support of all our farm people.

Addresses will be delivered by A. R. McMaster, K.C., T. A. Crerar, M.P., Robt. Forke, M.P., Premier Bracken, R. A. Hoey, M.P., and others. We also expect to have experts with us to speak on Co-operative Marketing of Wheat, Livestock and Poultry, etc. Ample provision will be made for discussion of resolutions. Plans are also under way to provide that all delegates or visitors wishing to visit the Grain Exchange or Stock Yards may do so the day following the convention, Friday, January 11.

We are striving to make this the "biggest ever" convention, and may we not look to every local for its hearty co-operation by sending its full quota of delegates prepared to contribute to

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the discussion of the convention. Come and have an interesting and profitable time in comfortable surroundings at St. Stephen's Church, Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, January 8, 9 and 10, 1924.

—D. G. McKenzie.

Souris District Convention

The Souris District U.F.M. convention was held in Boissevain recently, and about 80 delegates were present. Owing to threshing not being completed in some sections many farmers were unable to attend.

President Brown spoke of the disappointing harvest, and advised the farmers to develop a system of mixed farming. He felt that the year had not been barren of results as the association was organizing a wheat pool, had secured a reduction in lake freights, etc.

R. F. Chapman, district director, reported on the work of the Central board, and dealt at length with the benefits which the organization had secured for the farmer in the past.

Mrs. F. Howell, U.F.W.M. director, reported on the work of the Women's Section for the year and felt that the women's conference at Minto, was the principal achievement.

F. W. Ransom, district secretary, presented a carefully prepared report, and stressed the necessity of supporting the organizations we already have, the U.G.G. cattle pool, Manitoba co-operative dairies, and co-operative marketing of poultry.

Mr. McDonald, president of the Boissevain Board of Trade, then addressed the convention, pointing out how co-operation between town and country could be beneficial to both, and asking the assistance of farmers in the effort to establish a branch of the Manitoba Co-operative Dairies in Boissevain.

Dr. McLoughry gave an address on Livestock and Dairying. This was followed by a report by Roy Johnston on the district debates and emphasized the great benefits to those taking part in these debates.

C. H. Burnell, president U.F.M., addressed the convention in the evening, dealing mainly with the wheat pool proposal for Manitoba.

Mr. Landreth spoke on Co-operative Marketing of Poultry, showing the rapid development from a small beginning in Souris constituency.

Mr. McMillan of the U.G.G. Limited, outlined the Cattle Pool, showing why the pool was necessary. Mr. Steedsman, M.P., gave a review of the work done at the last session of parliament.

The officers for 1924 are as follows: Director on provincial board, R. F. Chapman; provincial U.F.W.M. director, Mrs. F. Howell; president, G. H. Brown; vice-president, R. Johnston; secretary, F. W. Ransom; district directors, Mrs. S. Fletcher, A. Grierson, E. D. Magwood and Mrs. G. N. Stewart.

A number of resolutions were passed to come before the provincial convention in January.

Springfield District Convention

Springfield District U.F.M. annual convention was held in Winnipeg, on November 8.

Addresses were given by Hon F. M. Black, provincial treasurer, and R. A. Hoey, M.P. Mr. Black dealing with provincial finances, and Mr. Hoey reviewing the work of the house at the last session, and also dealing with the proposed Redistribution Bill and its effect on the Springfield constituency.

The following officers were elected for 1924: Provincial director, A. Matheson, Cloverleaf; provincial director U.F.W.M., Mrs. J. C. McDermott, Hazelridge; president, John Holland, Dugald; vice-president, Bruce Edie, Dugald. Directors, N. J. Stryk, Ladywood; A. B. Dufort, St. Agathe; W. Cohoe, Giroux; J. C. McDermott, Hazelridge; I. St. George, R.R., Winnipeg; Mrs. J. T. Beattie, Oakbank; Miss F. Rankin, Giroux, and E. Roy, Vivian.

The Big Muskeg

Continued from Page 7

cloth. He wrenched the garment open with his right hand, pulled up the sweater, and tore the shirt apart. The heart, fluttering like a wounded bird, stopped under his hand. Joe sighed once, but he never stirred again. The bullet had passed clean through Joe Bostock's heart from the back. And, as he tried to raise Joe's body, Wilton realized that the same bullet had broken his left arm, which hung limp from the shoulder.

He sprang to his feet, a mad wrath giving back to him his ebbing strength. He glared about him, but it was impossible to ascertain from where the shot had come. He could not even locate the direction within a hundred degrees, for Joe had been in the act of turning. Nobody was in sight, and the woods were silent.

His bellowing call of fury that went echoing through the trees elicited no answer. He tore strips from his handkerchief, holding it between his teeth, and, with his left hand on his knee, knotted them about a stick and improvised a tourniquet. The blood was spurting down his sleeve in jets, the pain was intense, and it was impossible to take off the mackinaw and hope to replace his arms in it; but he twisted with all his force until the diminishing flow showed that he had compressed the artery. Thrusting the longer end of the stick beneath the arm-pit, he passed the other through the button-hole of the garment, and, stooping, managed to get

Joe's body upon his shoulder and to hold it with his right arm.

Carrying his lifeless burden thus, he began to descend to the level of the land, the head behind him, the arms and legs dangling limply in front of him. The throbbing in his shoulder was like the touch of red-hot wires, and pain and nausea weakened him as much as the loss of blood. But he made the level, and stopped there a moment in indecision.

His impulse was to carry Joe's body back to the camp, but he knew that it would be impossible to make that distance. Yet to leave it would mean the certainty of mutilation by bears or timber-wolves unless he could build a cairn of stones. And of that he was equally incapable. He set Joe's body down, and, in the first full realization of his loss and his predicament, he shouted curses to the sky.

That murder had been intended he did not believe; no doubt the shot had been a bullet fired at some nearer mark, perhaps a hare, and by one of the half-breeds. He suspected that the transit-bearer, following them up, had fired the shot, and, seeing the fatality, had fled.

But the thought that this might be the explanation was only a fleeting one. Joe was dead, and his body must be cared for, just as if he were alive—taken back to the camp and thence out of the woods. Into Wilton's mind there flashed the picture of a pretty, young, fair-haired woman, whose hand had rested on his shoulder at their last parting, just as Joe's had done.

"You'll take good care of Joe, Wilton," Kitty had pleaded anxiously. "He thinks he can endure anything, but he's not so young as he was. I'm always anxious about him when he's away on those long journeys."

"I'll take good care of Joe and bring him back to you safe and sound. Don't worry about that, Kitty," Wilton had answered.

And now he must face her with his explanations—and what remained of Joe. He thought quickly, and decided that there was no possibility of leaving Joe's body there. Yet it seemed to him that he could not hope to reach the camp. And now another idea came to him.

It was seven miles back to the camp, but only five to the portage over the frozen swamp. Upon the other side of the portage was a trail that came out of the prairie southward and wound into the unknown north. Along this Indians brought their winter catches to the trading-store of McDonald, the factor of the Hudson's Bay Company.

Travelling was hard along the shore of the great muskeg, but it would mean two miles less, and it was just possible to make the store. McDonald was a queer, taciturn, sometimes venomous old man, and had evinced a strong dislike of Wilton on the occasion of their last meeting. Yet McDonald would shelter him and receive Joe's body. And then there was Molly, his daughter.

Wilton, having made his choice, acted on it at once. With a great effort he raised Joe's stiffening form upon his shoulder again; and doggedly he began his awful journey, his right arm grasping the dead man, his helpless left hugging the tourniquet-stick against his side.

He stumbled over the rough ground until he reached the cleared road through the trees. Here the going was easier; but the burden numbed his right hand and shoulder, the throbbing pain in his left seemed to beat time to his footsteps, and the ache of the cramping muscles increased the agony of his wound and began to spread down his body.

Once his snow-shoe strap broke, and he was forced to set Joe's body down, pull off his mitts, and tie it. This time it was almost impossible to take up his burden, and when he stood up the scene began to whirl before his eyes. He cared no longer to continue the struggle, but consciousness, diminished to a tiny point within his brain, kept crying out about Joe, and he seemed to visualize Kitty, a tiny distant figure, and her reproaches.

He started again. A wind sprang up, driving gusts of whirling snow into his eyes. A deadly lethargy was creeping over him, and presently, turning his

head to shield his eyes from the beating blasts, he saw a trickle of crimson on the road behind him.

The tourniquet had loosened. He was bleeding his life away. The blood was gushing down his fingers. Once more Wilton set Joe's body down, and succeeded in tightening the compress. And this time it was only after an almost superhuman struggle that he could get Joe over his shoulder. He knew that if he was forced to set the body down again he could never lift it.

With knees bent, tripping over the roots of the trees, and reeling through a swimming world, he staggered on and on and on. And neither his anger nor the thought of Kitty could have kept his resolution through that nightmare of pain. It was all Joe now, the memory of Joe, his love for him, and his resolve that his friend's remains should not be torn by the timber-wolves.

Joe had befriended him years before, when he had drifted, penniless, into Winnipeg. Joe's faith had been his own, and the secret of the Missatibi theirs.

So the miles reeled off behind him, while the wind increased and the snow fell thicker along the way. At last the trees opened, and the bleak shore of Big Muskeg lay before him, a desert of ice and snow, with the bluffs opposite, and beyond them the trees once more.

At once the fierce swirl of the gale caught him, whistling like sirens, boring into his face like white-hot probes. The ice that fringed his lashes blinded him, and pulled them from the lids when he tried to open his eyes. He reeled on, clutching Joe's body, and heard his own voice go from him in shouts of despair. They rolled across the snow, and the echoes came in faint, mimicking answer from the distant cliffs.

Wilton retained sufficient consciousness of his surroundings to make his way along the shore toward the portage. He might have shortened his route to McDonald's store a little by risking a direct crossing; but the surface of a muskeg is always dangerous, even in midwinter, when the apparently solid ice conceals sink-holes of slush, which, mixed with peat and ooze, does not congeal firmly, and entraps the unwary traveller, a quickmud from which escape is next to impossible.

The portage was firm ice, although it offered no foundation for a railroad bed. It ran between two openings in the low bluffs, and the store was visible from the farther shore.

The edge of the muskeg was a litter of rocks and roots of fallen timber, hidden under snow-drifts, through which Wilton plunged waist-deep. The icy blasts pierced through his fur hood and mackinaw as if they had been cotton. His feet seemed like foreign bodies attached to his legs, up which he could feel the numbness creeping by inches towards his body. And when at last he reached the portage he looked out with incredulity toward the opposite shore, seeing only a flickering line of shadows through the slit between his frozen eyelids.

Resolutely clasping the frozen form with his right arm, he stepped out upon the surface. The wind, which blew through the gap with hurricane violence at almost all times, had swept the ice as a broom might sweep a rink, in enormous circles, glassy and firm, with whirling snow-piles round them. Wilton could progress only by inches, fighting the full blast of the gale, and seeing the line of his route only in fractions of seconds.

He stumbled in the drifts, which seemed to cling to him like spirits of the snow and thrust him backward; and he held out his right arm obliquely upward to balance the stiffened body which, no longer limp across his shoulder, bore its full weight upon the trapezius, as if it were the trunk of a tree.

Yet, with his dimmed vision, Wilton saw the bluffs in front of him, and the opposite shore nearing. And he fought furiously against the creeping numbness, knowing that each second counted for victory. It was perhaps a hundred feet farther. He opened his eyes an instant. Eighty now—seventy, perhaps: one last effort to cross the portage.

Fifty feet! With all of will and con-

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consciousness that remained Wilton set his face resolutely toward his landing-place, and strode on into the bank of snow piled up by the wind beneath the shelter of the bluffs. His feet sank through the crackling surface, he struggled shoulder-deep to win the last lap of the way. And of a sudden the ice broke under him, and, twenty-five feet from the shore, the snare of Big Muskeg held him.

Instinctively he sought to gather purchase upon the sides of the sink-hole into which he had fallen. The tourniquet-stick dragged through the yielding snow, the elbow of the arm that held Joe's body rested upon the ice. One instant he buoyed himself by this means over the peaty slush that sucked at him beneath. Then, with a last cry that sounded above the roaring of the gale, he yielded. And, clutching Joe's body to his own, Wilton went down.

CHAPTER III.

The Imprint in the Snow

McDonald, the factor, lay on his bed in an up-stairs room of the house whose lower story was the trading-store, and looked out through the window over the swamp beneath. It was two weeks since Molly had found him lying with closed eyes on the floor, with the flushed face and heavy breathing of apoplexy.

For two and twenty years McDonald had lived there, serving the company. Little had changed during that time. The Indians still brought peltries for barter—fewer, perhaps, than in the beginning, and one no longer piled beaver-skins about the stock of an up-right musket as the price of it. Otherwise everything was as it had been in the beginning of the factor's service. The chief change had been in himself, and, since this was to be measured rather by isolated happenings than the steady progress of time, McDonald could have counted on the fingers of one hand the scalemarks of his life.

The little finger was his arrival at Toronto from Aberdeen, drawn to the New World by stories of life in the service of the famous company. The third finger was Mary.

He had met her in Toronto, soon after his arrival in Canada, and she had been born in his own town, though he had not known her there. Molly knew vaguely that he had championed her in trouble that had come upon her, for which she was not to blame. There had been a blackmailer, a brawl, a knife-thrust, a blow struck wildly with some implement; a dead man, a white-faced girl clinging to him, and then the silence of the starlit streets. Donald McDonald still bore the scar of a ripping wound along his right forearm.

That had been their courtship. The

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next day McDonald had married her, and brought her to the trading-post. Six months later he was in charge of it. They had been happy during the years that passed before he laid her under the tamaracks, and after that Donald McDonald had lost all wish to return to Aberdeen or to pursue adventure farther.

For the company holds its men. Their lives settle into the well-worn rut trodden by generations of their predecessors. They grow contented. As he became older, McDonald grew to hate the more the civilization that he had left behind him.

Mary had been the third finger on the hand of McDonald's destiny, and her death was the middle one. The first was Molly, and it was about her that his thoughts clustered eternally.

Two seasons at the mission school at Moose Lake, a winter in Winnipeg—these comprised the girl's experience of the outside world. She helped her father in the store, and was a capable judge of mink and muskrat. She could bring down a moose at a thousand yards, and guide a canoe down Horseshoe Rapids.

She had gone to the Indian camp, five miles away, with medicine for a sick papoose, at daybreak, leaving her father in the care of Jules Halfhead, the Muskegon, a deaf mute who worked for the factor during intervals of wandering in the bush, trapping. McDonald had not left his bed since his attack, and Molly's fears were for him as she tramped back on her snowshoes through the beginning of the storm.

She did not like to leave him, for he had become more morose since his illness, and his mind seemed affected. When at last she entered the factor's room above the store, radiating youth and health, she saw with consternation that he was lying weakly on the pillow, and breathing as heavily as on the day of his stroke.

"You're feeling no worse, father?" she asked, sitting down beside him and taking his hand in hers.

"I'm no worse," said the factor thickly. "You took the letter?"

"It will leave tonight. But I wish you had let me write that you are ill. The company would bring you to Winnipeg. They can do wonders at the hospital there, and you'd soon recover the use of your limbs."

Ever since his stroke the factor had dragged his right leg, and his right arm hung by his side. He hardly ever left his bed, and then only to sit, wrapped in his caribou robe, staring out through the window at the portage.

"I'll no go to Winnipeg," said McDonald. "I'll just stay here until I'm better. I'm thinking the Dog Tooshs will be bringing in their peltries next week. I'm thinking I'll no buy December skins this winter."

"I was thinking the same. The fall was too late; they won't be purchasable till the middle of next month. But the Dog Tooshs will want debt."

"They'll get no debt," said McDonald. "See to it, Molly! But I suppose the squaws will get on the soft side of ye, and it takes a man to handle them. I'll have to get well," he continued, speaking with feverish energy.

Her eyes filled with quick tears. She knew that he was gathering courage, each day that he lay there, to bid farewell to the scene of his work and the gaunt tamaracks beside the water. McDonald watched her with the grim appraisal of a man who is trying to pass an unfettered judgment upon that which he loves.

"I'll have to get well," he muttered; and his mind, which had turned from one idea to another, running from its fears, now leaped upon them. "What'll ye do, Molly?" he demanded roughly. "There, my lass, I didna mean to put it to you like that. But where'll ye go if I dinna?"

"Don't let us think of that, father." "Aye, but ye canna stay here. I should have spoken before." In his distress he fell into his native speech. "Mony a nicht I've laid awake thinking on it, before I had the stroke, in the windy wacht here. I thoct I'd brocht ye up unspotted frae the world. And noo—"

She laid her other hand on his. "If the worst should happen, I can take care of myself. Don't fear for me,



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roll your
own
ask for
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father," she said.

"If ye could have the store. That'd be best. But the company wouldna have a woman factor. The company's consairvative. And the old store'll last out my days and yours, in spite of Joe Bostock's folly. That's what Mr. Bowyer called it when he was here for the moose in October. Joe Bostock'll never cross Big Muskeg. And if he could, where'd he get his freight and passengers?"

"If ever this country's opened up, Tom Bowyer will put his own line through. He was telling me so. But there's naething here but the moose and caribou and the Indians. It's always been that way; it always will be so."

He caught her by the sleeve. "Ye'll no see Will Carruthers again!" he shouted.

"I'm not likely to, unless he comes this way," she answered in a constrained voice, dreading the outbreak of violence which she knew would follow.

"Aye, but he'll be here. I ken the mon and his kind. The sight of a pretty face is meat and drink to him. He'll be here, and me lying helpless abed."

"Why, I've only seen Mr. Carruthers three times!" exclaimed the girl petulantly. "How did you get that nonsense about him and Joe and Kitty into your head, father?"

"I tell you I ken the mon. Mr. Bowyer was telling me about him. His name's a by-word among decent folks."

"Well, Mr. Bowyer's own reputation isn't the best," she retorted, nettled that she was forced to champion Wilton. "You know Mr. Carruthers has an interest in Joe Bostock's line. Of course, Tom Bowyer would try to set you against them!"

The factor's face grew purple with rage; he choked for utterance.

"I ken the whole scheme weel!" he shouted. "When you went to Winnipeg you got in thick with Kitty Bostock, and never a mail comes in but there's a letter from her. She and Joe are going to get you there, to leave me here alone. Aye, I read that letter the woman wrote you, telling you that your life was wasted here. I ken what the world is; I learned it in one night in Toronto years ago. And, mark me, I'd rather see ye lying dead at my feet than the plaything of a man like Will Carruthers!"

That had been the burden of his reproaches ever since Tom Bowyer's visit the autumn before. The old factor, brooding for years upon his act of homicide, had, in the loneliness of the trading-post, built up an imaginary world, peopled with devils for men. And Molly's future in that world had become the coping-stone of this conception.

Bowyer had poisoned his mind against Wilton—Molly was sure of that. And Bowyer could play on McDonald's fears as a harpist evokes music. For some reason he had chosen to enlist the old factor in his schemes against Joe's line.

She suspected that Bowyer had some hold over her father. She knew that, years before, he had secured him his position with the company. As it happened, the company needed men for training—Scots; for the service has become a tradition in North Britain since the days of McKenzie. And the company does not pick its employees out of the highways and byways.

Molly had known Tom Bowyer since childhood, although his visits to the trading-post had occurred not oftener than once in two or three years. He was interested in timber and developments, and other broad abstractions that lent themselves to political work and financing. But after the beginning of the railroad boom he had been to the post two or three times each year.

She had heard much to his discredit in Winnipeg, and had verified it when he spent a day or two at the portage in October. Bowyer saw bigger game in prospect than the moose, and, as a beginning, resolved to rid himself of a possible rival—Wilton. Molly had spoken well of him, and Bowyer was a keen reader of mind.

Ends Stubborn Coughs in a Hurry

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You'll never know how quickly a bad cough can be conquered, until you try this famous old home-made remedy. Anyone who has coughed all day and all night, will say that the immediate relief given is almost like magic. It takes but a moment to prepare, and really there is nothing better for coughs.

Into a 16-oz. bottle, put 2½ ounces of Pinex; then add plain granulated sugar syrup to make 16 ounces. Or you can use clarified molasses, honey, or corn syrup, instead of sugar syrup. Either way, this mixture saves about two-thirds of the money usually spent for cough preparations, and gives you a more positive, effective remedy. It keeps perfectly, and tastes pleasant—children like it.

You can feel this take hold instantly, soothing and healing the membranes in all the air passages. It promptly loosens a dry, tight cough, and soon you will notice the phlegm thin out, and then disappear altogether. A day's use will usually break up an ordinary throat or chest cold, and it is also splendid for bronchitis, croup, hoarseness and bronchial asthma.

Pinex is a most valuable concentrated compound of genuine Norway pine extract, the most reliable remedy for throat and chest ailments.

To avoid disappointment ask your druggist for "2½ ounces of Pinex" with directions, and don't accept anything else. Guaranteed to give absolute satisfaction or money refunded. The Pinex Co., Toronto, Ont.

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Rub the feet well with Minard's. A few applications and the soreness is gone.



When the storm of her father's rage had passed, the girl went down and stood miserably in the doorway. His insane outbursts were driving her to the very course he feared. Only his illness kept her from going away. She looked out, her mind in a turmoil of doubt.

Big Muskeg was at its loneliest. The gale was driving the snow before it in clouds like spray, and the wind howled through the gap in the bluffs. As the girl stood there she fancied that she heard a cry come across the frozen swamp.

She slipped on the hooded coat which she had left in the store, and went slowly toward the portage, listening intently. The driving wind had swept a portion of the trodden road clear of the fallen snow. In this, near the edge of the muskeg, she saw the imprint of a man's snow-shoe coming from the swamp. Her eyes, trained to observation detected instantly that there had been a loose string under the ball of the foot, which had trailed, leaving an oblique blur across the impression.

There was the one imprint, and no more. And, as she looked at it, a gust of wind drove a cloud of snow over it, obliterating it. Molly stood up. The discovery, which seemed of no importance, passed from her mind. Again she listened.

Then, with the uncomfortable feeling that she was being watched, she started and peered into the underbrush. A pair of beady eyes watched her. They were those of Jules, the half-witted deaf-mute. His furtive gaze and his seclusion indicated the approach of one of those spells of wandering that led him to leave the store and disappear without warning. For the moment Molly was startled. Then she stepped forward, and the Muskegon vanished soundlessly among the underbrush.

(To be continued next week).

Wild Life in the Rockies

A Study of the Sprightly and Graceful Mule Deer—

By Dan McCowan

ON the North American continent there are three members of the deer family which might well be termed first cousins.

In general appearance and in life habits the mule deer, the Columbia black-tailed deer and the Virginia deer, bear close resemblance. On closer examination, however, it will be noticed that these woodland dwellers exhibit marked differences both in form and in habit. Of this trio the mule deer is the largest animal. The name given to it is misleading and not at all complimentary. Far from being mule-like it is without doubt the most graceful and sprightly animal native to our woods and hills. It has several distinguishing characteristics, principal of which are the large, broad ears, the shape and color of the tail, and the form of the antlers. The antlers of the mule deer and the "black tail" differ from those of the Virginia deer in that they are larger and fork equally, the tines or branches being double pronged. A further and somewhat unusual identification mark is present in the form of a gland found on the outer side of the hind shank. On the Virginia deer this gland is about an inch in length, on the "black tail" about two inches, and on the mule deer three inches.

Ranging from northern Canada to Mexico, mule deer are to be found in regions of a vastly different nature. In the Rocky Mountains they are partial to rough, hilly country where timber grows sparsely. They are good climbers and are frequently seen at high altitudes feeding with the big-horn sheep. Wild sheep and deer appear to be always very friendly towards each other. Living in flocks and herds they are naturally of a sociable disposition. The fact that sheep live by grazing and deer by browsing has something to do with this unusual "chumming."

In some parts of America mule deer are commonly known as "jumping deer." When alarmed or pursued they bound away in a series of extraordinary "standing broad jumps," a method of progression extremely effective in indulating country. On level ground they are comparatively slow, but in the hills they travel rapidly and with great ease.

A full-grown mule deer has a length of about five and-a-half feet, and weighs about 250 pounds when in good condition. In summer it is clad in a coat of rusty yellow. With the coming of winter this is changed to a steel grey color. Having but poor eyesight it is amply compensated by possessing a keen sense of smell and an almost abnormal sense of hearing. Its big, broad ears, swinging as if in ball bearings, are capable of catching and locating the faintest forest sounds. The vocal powers of the mule deer are not to be compared to those of the mule.

When alarmed or when its curiosity is aroused the mule deer emits a loud whistling sound. Very young fawns call the attention of the mother by bleating softly. Although not so amphibious as its great uncle, the moose, the mule deer can swim well for a short distance. On warm sunny days this quadruped has a biped habit of going to sleep while standing up. This trait on the part of a much-hunted animal is not at all conducive to a ripe old age.

During the winter months mule deer range in small bands. When spring has come the does leave the herd, and seeking the seclusion of the deep woods, bring forth their young. Two at a birth is common, but three is unusual and rare. The fawns are pretty creatures, being clad in a russet-brown coat dappled with creamy white spots. These markings are of great protective value to the bearer, resembling as they do, spots of sunlight on the forest floor.

When fawns are born they are carefully hidden by the mother in different parts of the thicket. Bedded amongst grasses and concealed by plants and shrubs they lie very close and still. Blending into the background of their snug retreat they are almost invisible. During the nursing period of six weeks the anxious mother resorts to considerable strategy and camouflage in order to protect her offspring from harm. She seldom ventures near their place of concealment during the day lest her presence should betray them to the cougar or the coyote. In the quiet of evening she steals to them by a circuitous route and suckles them in the hours of darkness. The fawns are weaned at the end of summer when they at once lose their spotted coats and are clad in the same sober livery as their seniors.

Like most members of the deer family the bucks only are antlered. These are shed annually, being usually dropped in February or March. The growth and development of the new horn is very rapid. Until the antlers have attained to full growth they are covered with a soft velvety substance. In this covering is embedded a mass of blood-vessels carrying life to the fast-growing tissue of the horn. When the antlers are fully developed these veins are automatically cut off by ringed growth which forms close to the skull. This causes the velvet to shrink and dry. It is rubbed off gradually on trees and rocks and presently the proud buck is possessed of a nice, clean, shiny set of horns.



A mule deer, with antlers at their best



The deer become very tame in winter and come to houses to be fed.

When this process has been completed the buck goes forth to battle for possession of a small band of does. These fights between the males may best be described as wrestling bouts. Pushing one another backwards and forwards the

maddened pair strive until one or the other becomes exhausted and is driven off. Death from dislocation of the neck sometimes occurs to an animal engaged in these jousts. Horns may become so securely interlocked as to cause the death of both combatants.

At the beginning of December, or thereabouts, the yearly cycle of deer life has again been completed and bucks, does and young are leading a community life in herds of from ten or twelve up to many hundreds. When winter snows lie deep the mule deer is often hungry and in constant danger from beasts of prey. When they are pursued by wolves the end soon comes to the struggling deer. They cannot "buck jump" in snowbanks and so are soon overtaken and destroyed.

When ice is thin on river and lake many mule deer perish through breaking in. Their sharp-pointed hoofs pierce the frozen surface, and it is but seldom the unfortunate animal comes out alive.

One of the largest mule deer "heads" on record was obtained in the Rocky Mountains over thirty years ago. The animal was killed by an Assiniboine Indian hunter. The horns were not unusually massive but had an extraordinary spread, measuring, across the widest part, thirty-nine inches.

In making photographs of deer in their habitat it is better to try for sharp pictures at a reasonable distance rather than disturb the animal by attempting to get close up. A small sized image on a negative can be enlarged—if it is sharp in detail. The most satisfactory place to obtain such pictures is in open woods where there is a minimum of underbrush. The best time is on a cloudy-bright or hazy day. At such a time the light is soft and diffused and the shadows are less dense. It is well not to try to stalk the animals on their feeding grounds. Better results are to be had by walking around the herd in an unconcerned way and gradually moving closer. Deer in motion are hard to picture successfully in an environment of trees and bushes.

Hunting wild life with a camera is a noble sport, calling for infinite patience, perseverance and resource. It gives to the hunter at once the thrill of pursuit and the pride of possession. Ten thousand years ago the cave man painted deer pictures on the walls and roof of his rock dwelling. With ochres and oxides mixed in grease did Neolithic Nimrod record his prowess in hunting and killing the antlered monarch of the forest.

In any but the most remote regions the necessity for killing wild creatures for food has largely disappeared. Yet the ancestral urge of the chase persisting calls men out to the wilderness and into the solitary places of the earth. Heeding this age-old call the modern sportsman fares forth, not to kill and destroy wild birds and animals, but to secure from them camera trophies for the adornment of his dwelling.

A Farmer's Diary

A Guide reader states that for 12 years he has carried a pocket diary and would not think of going without one today as it has saved him many times its cost, and the time he has taken to make his notes. He finds it of particular help in keeping him up to date on meetings that he is going to attend, and also uses it to jot down the various things that he wants to do around the farm at certain times. He says that there are a hundred-and-one things that he writes down in that diary, and refers to from time to time, and it has been exceedingly helpful to him in keeping his farm work and his business well in hand. During the 12 years he has carried a pocket diary he has never lost one, and he has never once overlooked anything or neglected it because he forgot it, simply because it is always written down in his diary, and he looks at his diary every day to see what is marked up for his attention on that day.

"Where are those bills I got to pay tomorrow?"

"Dearest, I fixed them. I saw how they worried you, so I burned them."

The Countrywoman

Women in British Elections

WHEN the British parliament dissolved in order to go before the electorate in the recent election, there were three women sitting as members in the House of Commons. They were: Lady Astor and Mrs. Hilton Philipson, Conservative members for Plymouth and Berwick-on-Tweed, and Mrs. Margaret Wintringham, Liberal member for Louth.

In the campaign preceding election day many women entered the field as candidates. They represented every shade of political thought in England. Out of a total of 34 women candidates, 13 were Labor, 12 Liberal, seven Conservative, one Co-operative and one Independent.

It is now known that eight women members will take their places in the House of Commons when parliament re-assembles. All three of the former women members were re-elected, and in addition there are five others: the Duchess of Athol, Conservative; Lady Terrington, Liberal; and Miss Susan Lawrence, Margaret Bondfield and Miss Dorothy Jewson, Labor. The Conservatives and Laborites will each have three women members and the Liberals two.

The election of the five new members is remarkable in the fact that in each case they won the constituency for their party against the sitting member. Margaret Bondfield contested her constituency three times before she was successful. Lady Terrington contested her constituency for the second time as also did Miss Susan Lawrence.

Lady Astor's re-election is one of the interesting features of the campaign, as she had arrayed against her the forces of the drink trade, which is strongly organized, and which looks upon Lady Astor as one of its strongest opponents.

Prominent English feminist magazines kept women well informed of the stand of the various members of parliament on legislative matters concerning women and children. Time and Tide, a magazine devoted to women's interest in public affairs, printed a "black" and a "white" list of names of the members who had been most active either against or for such legislation, and women were urged to study these lists before voting.

The 1923 British election has now passed into history, and we will watch with interest the formation of the new government and the work of the new women members when they take their places. Among their number are three peeresses and three outstanding Labor women, one who has reached the foremost position in Labor ranks. They are now in a position to render valuable service to public well-being and Canadian women will follow their political careers with eager interest.

Home-Made Toys for Christmas

Although times are hard and money scarce, we must not disappoint the little ones at Christmas. Home-made toys are inexpensive, may be made quite attractive, and usually last longer than purchased ones.

The rag doll is always a favorite. The body may be stuffed with worn out underwear and neatly covered with a white cotton stocking. Sometimes I cover a spool for the head and use a small block of wood for the body, and small pieces of wood for the limbs. Paint a face with water colors or crayons, and make a simple kimona dress or a Little Red Riding Hood outfit.

Little boys love to cuddle stuffed bunnies or pussies. They are nice made of flannelette or velvet, but any material will do, then a few stitches to outline the features and buttons for the eyes.

Driving reins may be crocheted or knit of wool or strips of cloth sewn as for a narrow belt and if possible put on a tiny bell.

Wonderful things can be made from small boxes and a little paint or varnish. The storekeeper will save a few boxes for you if you ask him in time.

A doll's trunk is easily made by

fastening a lid to a small box, varnish the outside, and line inside with white ceiling paper.

A doll's carriage or a boy's toy wagon may be made using spools for wheels, friend husband will help you to put them on, also top and push bars, or the tongue in the wagon. Don't forget the paint, it does away with that home-made look.

A doll's bed is made by cutting down two sides of a box, cut some off foot end, put legs under box and paint white, then make mattress, pillow, etc.

Almost everyone knows how to make a wooden top by cutting a spool in half and inserting either pencil or stick. Then make discs of colored paper the size of the top, put hole in centre larger than pencil. As top is spinning slip on different colored discs.

Wooden blocks for building afford endless amusement. Cut about two dozen from a piece of 2x4, and place in box, also a dozen long thin pieces, such as shingle or side of apple box.

There is a mechanical toy "Busy Andy," which may be duplicated at home. Make two V-shaped troughs of long narrow boards, supports for each end or heavier board. At lower end of top trough bore a hole and make V opening so that marble, pebble or sand may drop through to lower trough and run down into box.

Besides toys, many other things may be made at home. An Indian play suit may be made of flour sacks dyed brown and decorated with fringe and bright colors. A feeder and traycloth made of damascene, edges scalloped, is both pretty and useful, and bibs of Turkish towelling are nice. And kiddies love a box of puffed rice candy which is not too rich for them, also the old fashioned taffy.

Let us make this a Merry Christmas for the children.—Mrs. W. L. Dennis.

Eliminating Frills

At no other time in history have such heavy demands been placed upon the strength of homemakers. Some pessimists cast their eyes backwards to the days when women did the spinning, weaving and every other process necessary in a self-contained home and bemoan "the incompetence of the homemakers today." These railers forget that in the balmy days of the past there was a sufficient supply of domestic servants to prevent the mistresses from becoming over-burdened. Today with the scarcity of household help, a woman is forced to do the washing, ironing, cooking, cleaning and some outside work, beside ministering to the physical, mental and spiritual needs of her family. In addition, she is usually



Mrs. Mary Thompson, of the Grand Prairie district, Alberta, standing beside a Scotch Pine, three years' transplanted.

Mrs. Thompson is a native of Jersey Island, and her garden on the shore of Bear Lake is like a bit of England set down in the north country. She has applied her knack of gardening to pioneer conditions with wonderful results. Seedling apples have already been matured by her for two years in succession.

called upon to help with community projects.

What is going to be the result of living under such high tension? Unless we are mistaken there are a good many women heading towards physical bankruptcy and unhappiness.

One day when we were talking to a farm homemaker who has been many years in the West, she said: "People want too many frills, and a woman on the farm cannot do everything. She is often more tired about what is left undone than about what she has accomplished." From years of observation we have noticed that in a large number of cases her remarks were applicable. It remains, therefore, for each woman to "take stock" and to eliminate frills.

The place to start is the meals, because they demand a lot of time. Lots of farm women claim they have plain, wholesome fare, but on investigation we find that they always have cake, cookies and pie for supper, "because the men like it." Here is one instance of frills. Either cake or cookies is quite sufficient for an ordinary supper, but both are unnecessary and pie is superfluous. If the family are accustomed to simple, nourishing food they are much more easily satisfied than if they are constantly given a large variety of dishes. This is where a homemaker can work out her own salvation.

Frosted cakes are another frill. Icing is very nice for special occasions, but in a busy day's work it is "the last straw that breaks the camel's back." As a general rule the time consumed in making frosting is not worth the trouble, and if a cake is well-made there is no necessity for increasing its popularity by adding a "frill." If the minutes used in making frostings during a year were totalled they would amount to a good many precious hours that could be well devoted to the training of children. This touches on a very important point, for in the West we are not so much in danger of being under-fed physically as of being starved mentally and spiritually. By taking stock of our methods we can eliminate many frills which will leave room for essentials.

Investigating Express Rates

It is not necessary to go into detailed discussion regarding the increase cost of goods to a consumer because of high express and freight rates, with women readers of The Guide. In their position as buyers of supplies for the family they know that transportation charges are simply added to the original price of an article, and both are paid by the consumer. They know also that when they have any produce to sell, from the dairy, poultry flock or garden, their margin of profit is cut down by high express rates. Often it means that they can not afford to ship their products to a market where they could command a good price and are, consequently, restricted to a very limited and often poorly paying market at home.

Through the farm women's organizations, which have made a study of marketing during the last few years, women are coming to know more and more about conditions that affect the price they receive for the products they have to sell, and they are taking an increasingly keen interest in the question of marketing.

There are a number of good reasons why women should follow closely the evidence which is being submitted to the Board of Railway Commissioners in connection with the application of the express companies for an increase in rates. The Guide has commented on this matter editorially and elsewhere in this issue appears a short summary of the evidence given at the sitting of the commission at Wianipeg.

The following poem on a garden in winter selected from poems by Louise Driscoll:

The dancing wind in my garden,
Flinging her skirts of snow,
Pirouettes over the pansy bed,
That is hidden, safe and low.



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That sailed on the middle sea,
Had purple and gold more precious
Than pansies find for me!

And when I see the bluebird,
Come by on iris wings,
And when, on my bare plum tree,
The first song sparrow sings.

I'll lift the woven blanket,
That sheltered them from cold,
And watch the delicate, hump-backed,
Fragile buds unfold.

The whirling wind in my garden,
Plays with a scarf of snow,
She dances over the pansy bed,
That is hidden, safe and low.

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The Guide assumes no responsibility for the opinions expressed by correspondents in this department. It is requested that letters be confined to 500 words in length, that one subject only be discussed in a letter and that letters be written on one side of the paper only, and written very plainly (preferably in ink).

Farmers and Labor Unions

The Editor.—I don't like the cartoon in The Guide of October 31. Who is responsible for high freight and express rates more than the labor unions? Surely it is about time we farmers tore off the mask. These unions are doing more to strangle business today than any other factor. As farmers, why don't we quit toadying to the labor element for a few votes. They are making suckers of us. They are grinning up their sleeves and saying: crowd farmers into this country and keep everybody else out. Then when they get us here we are compelled to work for them, and they pocket all we can scratch together, by their exorbitant demands. Change the label on "The Man Behind The Gun" in that cartoon.—Farmer, Galt, Ontario.

A Reparations Suggestion

The Editor.—First let us bear in mind that the restoration of Europe is of vital necessity to each and all of us, and secondly, owing to the so called paradox of reparation payments, Europe is unable to help herself. I therefore put forth the following proposal as one that will give Germany and the Germans a chance to show their good faith in a proposition that will not damage any trade and commerce, give help to the European allied millions in the matter of feed and assistance to Canadian farmers, viz.: If Germany can get volunteers so much the better, if not she is used to conscription for her army, let her conscript for the plow instead, and transport say 100,000 men to Canada, to be absorbed on Canadian farms on the following terms. Three or five years at \$300 per head first year, \$400 second year, \$450 subsequent years.

Full wages as above to be collected by Dominion government in wheat at a valuation based on No. 1 Northern, at \$1.50 per bushel, wherever delivered, to be handed over on reparation account and accepted by allied nations at that valuation. Transportation costs to be pooled and taken care of by reparation account.

Over and above the foregoing rate of wages the farmer must pay annually to his helper \$50 for clothing and necessities. The German government to issue to the Canadian government three or five-year

bonds, depending on the length of time agreed upon, in respect of duration of workers, covering either 33 1-3 per cent., or 50 per cent. of wages earned by employees exclusive of annual payment of \$50, which sum is to be distributed to the men when their time is up, when they would have an opportunity to homestead or return to Germany.

If the United States could be induced to do the same they should easily be able to absorb 250,000 men. Under the same terms the first year would produce 100 million dollars on the reparation account paid in the all essential feed, with an increase each year as more men were taken and wages increased.—R. S. Tallack.

Immigration and Exchange

The Editor.—At this time of renewed interest in our immigration problem, when so many of our public men are devoting much time and thought towards what appears to be and undoubtedly is, the biggest problem of the day, it behoves us to be sure that no stone shall be left unturned in order that the desired objective shall be reached. Having arrived at the conclusion that a large immigration is the crying need of Canada, particularly from the British Isles, it naturally follows that the West's further progress is contingent upon the immigration of capital. To a certain extent the two questions are inseparable, that is to say every immigrant is to a greater or lesser degree a capitalist. Prior to severing his connection with the Old Country, the prospective emigrant realizes upon his belongings, often at great loss, in order to make as good a start as possible in the new land. What must be his disappointment after having gone this far to find that his pound sterling is only worth about \$4.50, instead of \$4.86 2-3? It seems a very poor way to welcome this new capital does it not? It appears to the writer to be a very contradictory situation, and in view of the value of every new settler, it would appear to be very good business if the Canadian government would devise some way of meeting it, as the cost would be infinitesimal in comparison with the benefit received.

Immediately after the war, soldiers returning to Canada were faced with the

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same situation, and the government finally accepted their British money at par, could not the same steps be taken in regard to bona fide immigrants. I can see no good reason why not, and I feel sure that if this step were taken it would be a tremendous boon to the settler in particular and the Dominions in general. The same argument holds good in respect of settlers already here, many of whom, due to the general economic depression, are in sore financial straits, and in view of the high interest charges obtaining in Western Canada, are driven almost to despair, and are almost ready to quit. Many of these could obtain new capital from the Old Country to tide them over until the dawn of better times, but are compelled to abandon the idea as soon as they consider the tremendous cost, due to the low rate of exchange.—F. H. Randall, Shergrove, P.O., Man.

Who is to Blame?

The Editor.—Kindly allow me further space in reply to W. Stewart. I was born and long lived in Leicester, England, where the Rochdale system flourishes remarkably, and in many smaller places around. I belonged to two different co-operative societies, took up some shares in both, paying a small instalment down. All dividends and interest were kept back on these shares till they were paid up. This is how we take up shares in Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Co. A man pays \$7.50 on his share, and part of the company earnings goes to pay up his shares; this will take some 18 years to complete.

A substantial reserve fund is necessary in the two farmer companies because crops fluctuate, and to prepare against all eventualities. It is easier to borrow

CHRISTMAS MORNING IN DOOVILLE

Dooville was almost hidden by a thick heavy blanket of snow. The little Doo Dads were worried. Could it be possible, thought they, that the drifts might pile so high that the reindeer might not be able to break through? For you see, it was the day before Christmas and the little Doo Dads had been looking forward to hanging their very largest stockings above the big open fireplaces on Christmas eve. Bright and early they were awakened by the merry shouts of little Doo Dads. "Christmas Gift," cried one and "Merry Christmas," cried another. And—"Did Santa Claus get lost? Not much!" That morning every little Doo Dad found his stockings full to the top. There were oranges, and nuts, and candies. There were cap guns, and tin horns, and toy airplanes, and roller skates, and soon the streets were alive with little Doo Dads. Sleepy Sam was out very early with his little cart, and every little Doo Dad that passed would say: "Merry Christmas, Sleepy," and Sleepy would say: "The same to you and may you have many more, and may they all be merry," and then the little Doo Dad would buy a wheel and all of this made Sleepy very, very happy. The little Doo Dad with the tiny elephant on wheels was quite sure he had the finest present of them all until he saw the big, woolly lion Santa left in the stocking of one of his little playmates. It surely is a wonderful lion! It is so big and fierce looking that it has frightened Flannelfeet almost out of his wits. Boom! went Poly's toy cannon, and the big cork cannon ball hit the little Doo Dad who was riding his new velocipede, and before he could say scat he had run over Mr. Grouch's foot with the big bun on it. I just wonder if Mr. Grouch knows what day it is. There is one thing sure, he is the only Doo Dad that isn't wearing a smile this day. Oh! it was a Merry Christmas for the little Doo Dads. We hope that each little boy and each little girl who reads this will have a Christmas just as fine. Merry Christmas!



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ARCH DALE

in banks to handle the wheat crop. It was very hard to borrow money for this purpose in the early days of the U.G.G. Co., because the company was short on capital. Even now the Alberta wheat pool is up against it, because there is no capital in the pool, and the Alberta government has guaranteed the banks against loss to the extent of \$250,000.

I have been at Regina Co-op. conventions, and heard "patronage dividend" discussed. The reasons assigned why the company do not pay this dividend are its difficulties and costliness. It would entail a large number of clerks being employed, and larger offices. Then how is the small farmers' lot, two or three wagon loads, to be estimated? Such a man would get but a few cents; he would be disgusted and say, "if that is co-operation, none of it for me."

Mr. Stewart appears to think his farmer neighbors would support the farmers' companies if a patronage dividend were paid. I greatly doubt it. These men fail us because they are not true co-operators; they shew this when they say they think they get a better deal elsewhere. This is the only idea some people have about co-operation. They think nothing about working together for "a principle," they only look at what they think are present money gains. Capitalists have often succeeded in destroying co-operative institutions by underbidding and similar tricks, thus we fail to improve our lot. They have us by the neck.

For shareholders to withhold their trade because there is some item they don't like are spitting themselves. I think all leading officers of our farmer companies should not be M.P.'s, because it gives some color to the charge that the companies are dabbling in party politics, but I trade steadily all the same; we are improving all the time.

The farmers around my district are prosperous and well educated, equal to any district. For some years a good deal of local buying was done co-operatively—car loads of flour, apples, twine, fence posts, etc. Now all this has completely died out for years past. More than a patronage dividend was saved, for these goods were had at cost to the farmer. Even the labor of the man handling same was paid by the municipality, for he did this co-operative work along with his duties as agricultural secretary. Coal is now the only commodity handled co-operatively. The same local firm that handles coal does so as a private dealer at the next village where co-operation does not exist. They pay around \$3.00 a ton more for coal than our dealer sells it here, because of our co-operative selling. The only system that succeeds, appears to be the bonding of farmers for five years to hold them to what is good for themselves.

The United Grain Growers Company handle cattle co-operatively "at cost" by a cattle pool. Yet I see our local farmers are selling by car loads their cattle to private traders! A glib-tongued dealer can talk them into believing anything; they fall for it. A local man got 40 cars of wheat into his hands last fall here, and got \$5.00 a car making out the freight bill. It was simply "talk" did it. Quite a number of these cars would have gone to the farmers' companies, but shareholders allowed a man to pull the wool over their eyes.

I signed the wheat pool but do not approve of taking two cents a bushel for buying elevators. A man shipping five cars a year will pay \$100 tax, in five years \$500, all taken from him without interest being paid on it; it is gone. In five years, the elevators will be paid for, the succeeding joiners will not need to be taxed the two cents. Is this fair or honest?—Sask. Farmer.

A Question for The Juniors

The Editor—Through the open forum of The Grain Growers' Guide, I would like to find out the opinion of other Junior U.F.M. locals on the matter of co-operation with the Boys' and Girls' Clubs.

I for one believe we would be doing an injustice to ourselves in places where there are Boys' and Girls' Clubs, and in places where there are Junior U.F.M. locals and no Boys' and Girls' Clubs.

If we co-operate with the Boys' and Girls' Clubs, we have to drop our own name and go under the club name. Therefore, why should we leave our Junior farmers' organization to have to come back to U.F.M. and the U.F.W.M., when we become of age. Therefore, I say again, it is not only an injustice to ourselves. We have started to train our young people to take leadership for the farmers' cause. I say to stay as we are, and keep in close touch with Central office.

The local of which I am a member, passed a resolution which said:

"If we do not see greater advantages to be had by joining the Boys' and Girls' Club, we will stay as we are."

I would like to see letters both from junior and senior locals on this subject, because I believe the farmers' movement is not strong enough, and by breaking away we are only making it weaker. Hoping to see more on this subject.—W. E. D. Edmonds, Hazelridge, Man.

The Farmers' Dollar

The Editor.—I was much interested in the lucid way H. Bates explained the value of the farmers' dollar. If we could get the farmers thinking along these lines results in organization would be obtained. But why did his reasoning end where it did? The hats, shirts and boots came from the hands of organized capital and labor, while the wheat, pork and beef came from the hands of individual selling farmers. My greatest hope of the wheat pool is that as a collective selling agency it will try to balance the scales. Then there can be other ways of reducing the 25 per cent. without destruction. Don't expect too much of the pool during the first year. The history of labor to raise the value of his dollar is a long and a hard one. To get the same results the farmer will have to sell his labor collectively. We are on the right track for direct action Mr. Bates. Sign up and help to help yourself by helping us.—Sask. Pool Worker.

Direct vs. Indirect Trading

The Editor.—In your issue of September 5, you quote government returns of increased prices of public necessities, such as food and clothing for 1923 over those of 1913. The difference is alarming, and is not modified when it is remembered the prospect of relief in this direction is remote. It must be remote when governments have to deal with the large debts resulting from the conduct of the war. Revenue must be raised. The question is whether or not indirect taxation is the best means of doing so. Indirect taxation is popular as compared with direct, but it is decidedly foolish if the working of it is attended as it is by all kinds of imposition by those who handle the goods on the way to consumers. It may safely be said that all goods subject to government duty have that charge increased considerably by those who handle them. Matches bear duty of five cents per box, making the price 30 cents for three boxes, but the price to the consumers is 40 cents, and so with all other things. The system is wrong. It only exists because people persist in their preference of it to direct taxation, such as income tax or poll tax. By the way income tax was imposed in Great Britain to pay for the Crimean war, and it has never been taken off, but with all its inquisitorial operation it is better than a double indirect tax.

Would not the press be doing good service if it created a public sentiment conducive to looking at facts however unpalatable rather than continuing to live in a fool's paradise based on deception. Debts incurred must be paid. Why not swat it out by direct work, instead of continuing a system that, beside revenue, exploits the public. The object will be attained in the first way, whereas it is safe to say it never will be by indirect taxation. It is above all things needful to look at things as they are and not as they are made to appear or supposed to appear. Convert the people from the position in which they are quite happy if told a lot of lies and quite miserable if told the truth and facts.—W. J. Thompson, Lloydminster, Sask.

Guide Bulletin Service

Such a large number of requests are received by The Guide for information upon a wide range of subjects that a Special Bulletin Service has been developed to meet the need. Some of these Bulletins are reprints of articles that have appeared in The Guide from time to time and some are new material. The list will be added to in the future. These Bulletins will be sent at one cent each, when accompanied by a self-addressed and stamped (three-cent) envelope. For convenience please order by number.

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Various

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WANTED—A FEW SHETLAND PONY MARES. T. A. McInnis, 1737 Rose Street, Regina. 50-2

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POULTRY See also General Miscellaneous

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Spring Chickens, 4 lbs. and over, 12-15c; dressed 15-18c
All quotations f.o.b. Winnipeg and guaranteed until next issue. Crates on request.
ROYAL PRODUCE CO., 97 Aikins St., Winnipeg

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Mention The Guide

Revised Crop Estimate by Grain Dealers' Association

The Northwest Grain Dealers' Association on Friday issued a further crop estimate for the three prairie provinces. This latest estimate places the wheat crop at 428,675,000 bushels, which is an increase over their former estimate by 33,865,000 bushels, the previous figures being 394,810,000. The report also gives statistical figures of the situation of wheat and other grains as they stood on December 7 last. The following is the report:

In issuing this estimate of the crop, the acreage is based on the Dominion government census returns for 1921, plus or minus increase or decrease in acreage for 1922 and 1923.

Manitoba

Grain	Acres	Bus. per acre	Total Bushels
Wheat	2,362,500	12.3	29,058,000
Oats	1,964,500	35.2	69,150,000
Barley	934,600	24.7	23,084,000
Rye	195,200	14.1	2,752,000
Flax	58,500	10.4	608,000

Saskatchewan

Grain	Acres	Bus. per acre	Total Bushels
Wheat	11,193,000	20.2	226,099,000
Oats	5,225,300	47.7	249,247,000
Barley	478,100	29.9	14,295,000
Rye	289,500	16.1	4,661,000
Flax	422,500	11.7	4,943,000

Alberta

Grain	Acres	Bus. per acre	Total Bushels
Wheat	5,862,100	29.6	173,518,000
Oats	2,451,800	54.1	132,642,000
Barley	371,500	35.8	13,300,000
Rye	225,700	18.8	4,243,000
Flax	26,700	11.7	312,000

Aggregate

Grain	Acres	Bus. per acre	Total Bushels
Wheat	19,417,600	22.1	428,675,000
Oats	9,641,600	46.8	451,039,000
Barley	1,784,200	28.4	50,679,000
Rye	710,400	16.4	11,656,000
Flax	507,700	11.5	5,863,000

Wheat Situation at December 7, 1923

Wheat inspected to date	216,220,000 bus.
In store at country points	50,229,000 bus.
In transit not inspected	16,500,000 bus.
Allowance for seed, feed and country mills	45,000,000 bus.
Balance in farmers' hands to market	100,726,000 bus.

428,675,000 bus.

Amount yet to be inspected 167,455,000 bus.

Grain	Inspected to date	In Store at Country Pts.
Oats	26,723,000	9,387,000
Barley	10,229,000	2,001,000
Rye	4,053,000	1,223,000
Flax	3,088,000	1,013,000
Oats in farmers' hands to market	40,054,000	
Barley in farmers' hands to market	7,927,000	
Rye in farmers' hands to market	2,676,000	
Flax in farmers' hands to market	1,185,000	

In comparison with our September crop estimate, the present wheat yield for Alberta shows an increase of 4.4 bushels to the acre, due to the fact that threshing operations had only commenced in that province when our September questionnaires were sent out, and elevator agents were not then in a position to estimate the wheat yield accurately. Present returns from 90 per cent. of Alberta points now indicate the average wheat yield to be 29.6 bushels to the acre.

E. G. JONES, Manager.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKET

Glasgow markets are still closed, owing to foot and mouth disease. Sales of Scotch cattle have been made from 13c to 15½c alive, according to weight and quality. Meriklands wharf, Glasgow, has been opened for the receipt of Canadian and Irish cattle, provided same are slaughtered within 96 hours after arrival. One thousand Irish sold on December 8, from 8c to 10c live weight. Prices were somewhat affected by the compulsory slaughter order.

Birkenhead sold 1,705 Canadian cattle.

Prices were mostly 17½c to 18½c in sink. London reports the sale of 600 Canadian dressed sides. Middling quality 14c per lb. Choice 17c. Dressed trade slow, but fair prospects for good quality beef.

BRITISH BACON MARKET

Canadian boxed bacon 72s to 78s, bales 75s to 80s, market depressed; heavy supplies, prices irregular. American 65s to 70s, quiet. Irish 90s to 95s. Danish 83s to 90s. Danish killings estimated 77,000 head or more.

The Farmers' Market

Office of the United Grain Growers Limited, Winnipeg, Man., December 14, 1923

WHEAT—Last boats cleared from Fort William and Port Arthur on December 12, and the effect on the cash market was felt immediately. Shippers stopped buying to load by the lake route. The price of the future months has also declined fractionally, reflecting the lack of demand for the cash article. Practically all grades have declined to the basis of the cost of carrying until navigation opens in the spring; under the May delivery, future and low grades especially, are on an attractive speculative basis. It looks very much at the moment as if the terminals will be filled to capacity early in the New Year, and a possible embargo placed on country shipments at that time. The all-rail movement East might take some wheat, but buyers can get their requirements very easily without disturbing the markets. This condition is well known to the grain trade everywhere, and no doubt has already had its effect on the futures markets. The effect on the cash market undoubtedly will be to hold all wheat at a wide discount all since cash wheat declined, but there is still considerable coming on to the market every day.

OATS AND BARLEY—Oat market dull, with prices showing an easier tendency. Heavy country receipts continue and stocks are accumulating at the terminals. Cash oats in poor demand, with all contract grade trading at delivery spreads. Barley is in excellent demand, both cash and futures, and prices show considerable improvement from a week ago.

WINNIPEG FUTURES									
Dec. 10 to Dec. 15 inclusive	10	11	12	13	14	15	Week Ago	Year Ago	
Wheat—									
Dec. 92	91	92	92	91	92	92	92	108	
May 98	97	98	98	97	98	98	98	110	
July 99	99	99	100	99	99	99	99	111	
Oats—									
Dec. 37	36	36	37	36	36	37	37	45	
May 41	40	41	41	40	41	41	41	48	
July 42	41	41	42	41	41	42	42	47	
Barley—									
Dec. 53	52	54	55	54	54	53	53	54	
May 56	55	56	56	56	56	56	56	58	
July ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	58	
Flax—									
Dec. 199	196	197	198	197	197	199	199	208	
May 206	204	205	206	204	205	206	206	209	
July 206	204	205	206	205	205	207	207	206	
Rye—									
Dec. 64	63	64	64	63	63	65	65	82	
May 69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	87	
July ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	86	

LIVERPOOL PRICES

The Liverpool market closed December 14, as follows: December, 8s 11d; March, 8s 8d per 100 pounds. Exchange, Canadian funds, \$4.47. Worked out into bushels and Canadian currency the Liverpool close was: December, \$1.19; March \$1.16.

MINNEAPOLIS CASH PRICES

Spring wheat—No. 1 dark northern, \$1.13 to \$1.15; No. 1 northern, \$1.12 to \$1.14; No. 2 dark northern, \$1.11 to \$1.13; No. 2 northern, \$1.10 to \$1.11; No. 3 dark northern, \$1.07 to \$1.09; No. 3 northern, \$1.06 to \$1.08. Winter wheat—Montana—No. 1 dark hard, \$1.10 to \$1.15; No. 1 hard, \$1.07 to \$1.14; Minnesota and South Dakota—No. 1 dark hard, \$1.07 to \$1.10; No. 1 hard, \$1.06 to \$1.08. Durum wheat—No. 1 amber, 93c to \$1.03; No. 1 durum, 91c to 98c; No. 2 amber, 91c to \$1.01; No. 2 durum, 90c to 97c; No. 3 amber, 89c to 99c; No. 3 durum, 87c to 95c. Corn—No. 2 yellow, 65c to 66c; No. 3 yellow, 64c to 65c; No. 2 mixed, 64c to 65c; No. 3 mixed, 63c to 64c. Oats—No. 2 white, 40c to 41c; No. 3 white, 39c to 40c; No. 4 white, 38c to 39c. Barley—Choice to fancy, 58c to 62c; medium to good, 54c to 57c; lower grades, 48c to 53c. Rye—No. 2, 65c to 66c. Flaxseed—No. 1 \$2.45 to \$2.49.

CALGARY LIVESTOCK

Receipts today were 413 cattle, 19 calves, 700 hogs and 900 sheep. The market was slow and draggy, prices being about steady, however, on the week's decline for quality offered. Butcher steers, good, \$4.00 to \$4.25. Heifers, good, \$3.00 to \$3.25. Cows, medium to fair, \$2.50 to \$2.75. Calves, fair \$2.50 to \$2.75. Stockers and feeders, fair to medium \$3.00 to \$3.60. Stocker heifers, fair to good, \$2.15 to \$2.25.

SOUTH ST. PAUL LIVESTOCK

Estimated receipts at the stock yards today were: Cattle, \$1,500; calves, 1,000; hogs, 14,000; sheep, 500; cars, 205. Cattle—Beef steers, \$4.50 to \$12.00; bulk of sales, \$5.50 to \$7.50. Cows, heifers, \$3.00 to \$10; bulk of sales, \$3.50 to \$5.00. Canners and cutters, \$2.00 to \$3.00; bulk of sales, \$2.00 to \$2.75. Bulls, \$3.00 to \$4.00; bulk of sales, \$3.25 to \$4. Veal calves, \$3.50 to \$8.50; bulk of sales, \$4.00 to \$8.00. Stock feeding steers, \$2.50 to \$7.25; bulk of sales, \$4.50 to \$6.00. Hogs—Hogs, \$5.75 to \$6.75; bulk of sales, \$6.50 to \$6.75. Sheep—Lambs, \$8.00 to \$12.25; bulk of sales, \$12.00. Ewes, \$1.50 to \$7.00; bulk of sales, \$5.00 to \$6.50; wethers, \$5.00 to \$8.75; yearlings, \$7.50 to \$10.25; bucks \$2.50 to \$3.00.

WHEAT PRICES

Dec. 10 to Dec. 15, inclusive

Date	1 N	2 N	3 N	4	5	6
Dec. 10	93	89	85	79	71	68
11	91	88	83	76	68	66
12	92	89	84	77	69	67
13	92	89	84	77	69	67
14	91	88	83	77	68	66
15	92	89	84	77	69	67
Week Ago	94	91	86	79	71	69
Year Ago	108	103	102	95	92	85

WINNIPEG LIVESTOCK

The Livestock Department of the United Grain Growers Limited, report as follows for week ending December 14, 1923:

Receipts this week: Cattle, 10,377; hogs, 7,132; sheep, 930. Last week: Cattle, 9,888; hogs, 7,070; sheep, 527.

The lowest cattle prices of the year have been registered during the past week, and are a direct result of the very heavy run of medium to poor quality stock, and particularly of females. The run of plain to medium cows was heavier than at any previous time this year, and with both Eastern and Southern markets lower, it was almost impossible to dispose of this she stuff at any price. The demand for steers was more active and those carrying plenty of flesh as well as all dehorned feeders were selling close in line with previous quotations. Best butcher steers are quoted today from 4 1/2c to 5c; medium qualities 3 1/2c to 4c, and common 2c to 3 1/2c. Best butcher cows are bringing from 2 1/2c to 3 1/2c, and the medium kinds from 2c to 2 1/2c. Prime butcher heifers from 4c to 4 1/2c; medium 3c to 3 1/2c, with breedy stock heifers 2c to 2 1/2c. Best dehorned feeders are bringing from 3 1/2c to 4c, with the medium kinds from 3c to 3 1/2c, and stocker steers from 3c to 3 1/2c. Choice veal calves are bringing from 4c to 5c; stock calves 2 1/2c to 3c, and plain fall fed calves 2c to 2 1/2c.

The hog run continues heavy and in sympathy with Eastern markets prices took another drop, thick-smooths today being quoted at \$6.85, with a 10 per cent. premium over this price for select hogs.

Best lambs are bringing from 10c to 10 1/2c and best sheep from 5c to 6c. Feeder lambs are bringing from 5c to 6c. Shippers from Saskatchewan and Alberta should bring health certificates covering cattle shipments. This is very important.

The following summary shows the prevailing prices at present:

Prime butcher steers.....	\$4.50 to \$5.00
Good to choice steers.....	3.75 to 4.25
Medium to good steers.....	3.00 to 3.50
Common steers.....	2.00 to 2.50
Choice feeder steers.....	3.50 to 4.00
Medium feeders.....	3.00 to 3.50
Common feeder steers.....	2.00 to 2.50
Choice stocker steers.....	3.00 to 3.50
Medium stockers.....	2.25 to 2.75
Common stockers.....	1.75 to 2.00
Choice butcher heifers.....	4.00 to 4.25
Fair to good heifers.....	3.00 to 3.50
Medium heifers.....	2.50 to 3.00
Choice stock heifers.....	2.00 to 2.25
Choice butcher cows.....	2.50 to 2.75
Fair to good cows.....	2.00 to 2.50
Cutter cows.....	1.25 to 2.00
Breedy stock cows.....	1.50 to 1.75
Canner cows.....	.75 to 1.00
Choice springers.....	4.00 to 50.00
Common springers.....	25.00 to 35.00
Choice veal calves.....	4.50 to 5.50
Common calves.....	2.00 to 3.00
Heavy bull calves.....	2.00 to 2.50

EGGS AND POULTRY

WINNIPEG—Eggs: This market is unchanged. Very few fresh are arriving, dealers are quoting, delivered, extras 50c to 55c, firsts 40c to 50c, seconds 23c to 25c. Some British Columbia fresh are arriving jobbing 75c to 80c. Local storage stocks are moving into consumption well, extras at 36c to 40c, firsts 32c to 36c, seconds 27c to 29c. Poultry: Arrivals of poultry are heavier, including several cars for shipment East. Dealers are not quoting on turkeys, but agreeing best price on day of arrival.

REGINA, SASKATOON AND MOOSE JAW—Eggs: No quotations are being put out by the trade for fresh. Chief business is in storage, which are jobbing, extras 42c, firsts 39c, seconds 31c. Consumptive demand is reported to be good. A few British Columbia fresh pullet extras have arrived, which are retailing up to 80c. Poultry: Market unsettled. Chicken, fowls and ducks are fairly firm at last week's prices. Turkey receipts are heavier, however, packers are offering 16c, delivered, for No. 1, dressed.

CALGARY—Eggs: While some are putting out quotations for fresh, arrivals are practically nil. These quotations delivered Calgary, are extras 45c, firsts 38c, seconds 25c. Markets for storage eggs is good with stocks reported low. Firsts are jobbing at \$11.50 per case, seconds \$9.00 to \$10.00 per case. Some British Columbia fresh are arriving, costing \$14.00 per case. United States fresh also commenced to arrive last week, with one shipment coming in of 65 cases. Poultry: All kinds of poultry are moving freely with some packers reported to be buying in car lots. Prices are easy.

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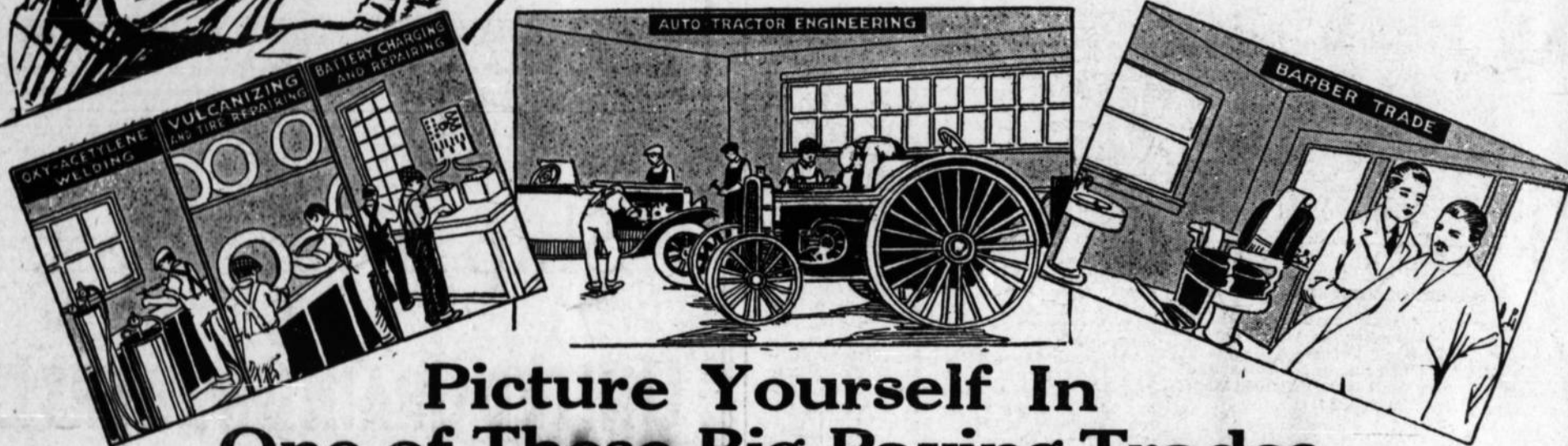
Cash Prices at Fort William and Port Arthur December 10 to December 15, inclusive

Date	WHEAT Feed	2 CW	3 CW	OATS Ex Fd	1 Fd	2 Fd	3 CW	4 CW	Rej.	Fd	1 NW	2 CW	3 CW	RYE 2 CW
Dec. 10	67	37	34	34	32	23	54	50	48	47	199	195	175	64
11	64	36	33	33	31	28	53	48	46	46	196	192	172	63
12	65	36	33	33	31	29	54	49	47	47	197	193	173	64
13	65	37	34	34	32	30	55	50	47	47	198	194	168	64
14	64	36	33	33	31	28	54	49	45	45	197	193	167	63
15	65	36	33	33	31	29	54	50	46	45	197	193	167	63
Week Ago	67	37	34	34	32	23	54	50	48	47	200	195	175	64
Year Ago	70	40	42	42	40	34	54	49	44	44	209	204	168	82

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